

SAINT MARY of the Assumption



Roman Catholic Church
Manchester, Michigan



REVEREND FR. BOSCO PADAMATTUMMAL
Administrator

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WEEKEND MASSES:

Sunday 8:30 am and 10:30 am

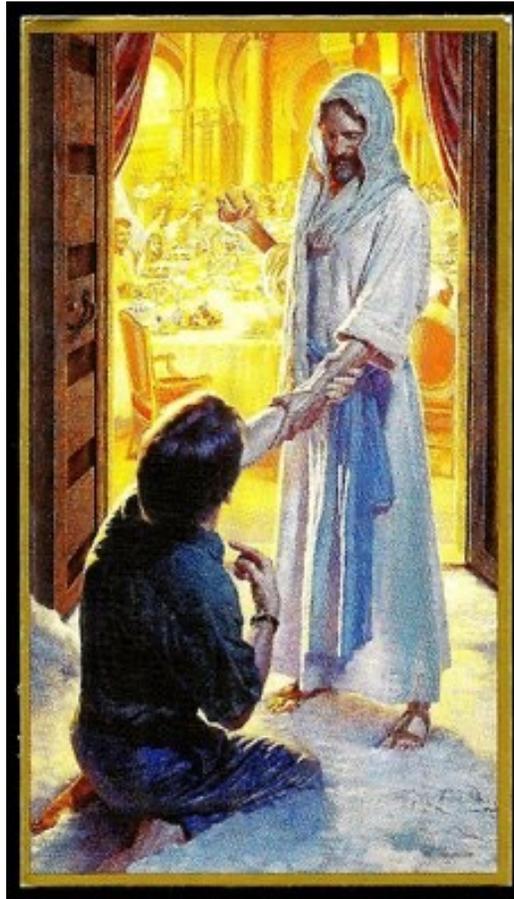
Vigil Mass Saturday at 5:00 pm

The Twenty-first Sunday of Ordinary Time - August 21, 2022

“But What About You?” Fr. Bosco Padamattummal

In the Gospel reading today, as Jesus was journeying, someone who seemed as though he had at least some understanding of what Jesus was headed to Jerusalem to accomplish, said to Him, “Lord, will those who are being saved be few?” Most probably he is someone who strives to live by the standards of the religion at the time of Jesus. The Pharisee prayed thus: “God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.” So this anonymous someone who comes to Jesus wants to know if God is ‘fair.’ Will he reward with ‘salvation’ those who have diligently strived to live a ‘godly life’? And is he willing to exclude those from ‘salvation’ who have not?

“Will those who are being saved be few?” Maybe this “someone” was thinking of a son or daughter who has wandered from the faith that they received at their baptism and who now professes some other faith, or maybe do not practice any faith at all. Maybe this “someone” has a dear friend in mind, who is a part of that great majority of people with whom we live and work who have never been baptized into Christ and who don’t much care to be baptized, who never give things like “salvation” and “eternal life” much of a thought at all. It is a very painful thought for a believer who really cares for the souls of their sons and daughters or anyone who ignores the faith in Jesus and eternal life. And it pains them to think that those who are being saved might be ‘few’ and that these loved ones and friends will be lost, not only to themselves but to the eternal love and life of the God who created them, and atoned for their sin with His own body and blood for them.



And so maybe “someone” wants to know if God is ‘merciful.’ Will He really deny ‘salvation’ to all those who do not confess “Jesus Christ as Lord”? Will He exclude those from ‘salvation’ who are not Christian? Is there another way to be saved? Jesus doesn’t give a straightforward ‘yes’ or ‘no’ answer. Whenever someone asks Jesus a question about “people” in general and God’s Will towards people overall, He refuses to answer, but rather turns the question around to ask, “but what about you?”

In the beginning of this chapter of Luke’s gospel, we read about some who came to Jesus and wanted to know if those Galileans whose blood Pilate mixed with the sacrifices were greater sinners than others. And Jesus replied, “No, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.” And what about those eighteen who were killed when that tower in Siloam fell on them? Was it because they were worse sinners than all the others who were not killed? And Jesus replies, “No, I tell, but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.” (Luke 13:1-5). St. Paul writes to the Corinthians “Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves.” (2 Cor. 13:5). “Let a person examine himself and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.” (1 Cor. 11:28).

In other words, Jesus is not very interested in doing “theology in general” or discussing things like, “why God saves some and not others” or “how many will be saved: a few or many?” Jesus Christ has come into the world to save ‘sinners.’ This is most certainly true. But let’s not debate who is a sinner and who isn’t. Let’s talk about you, the sinner that you are. Jesus said to them, “Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and

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Fr. Bosco's article continued from page 1

PARISH CALENDAR <i>Mass Intentions, [Requested By], Parish Activities</i>	
SAT., AUGUST 20	St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor
Ez 43:1-7ab/Mt 23:1-12	3:30-4:30 pm Confession 5:00 pm Vigil Mass: <i>For the People</i>
SUN., AUGUST 21	Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 66:18-21/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30	Confessions 8:00-8:15am and 10:00-10:15am 8:30 am Mass: †Elva Heslip [Diane DuRussell] 10:30 am Mass: †Joyce Stein [Joanne & Andy Nordeen]
MON., AUGUST 22	QUEENSHIP OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12/Mt 23:13-22	No Mass today in Manchester
TUES., AUGUST 23	Weekday/St. Rose of Lima
2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Mt 23:23-26	8:30 am Mass: <i>For the repose of the soul of †Joe Kirk</i> [Shirley Krzyzaniak]
WED., AUGUST 24	St. Bartholomew, Apostle
Rv 21:9b-14/Jn 1:45-51	8:30 am Mass: †Duane Beuerle [The Beuerle Family]
THURS., AUGUST 25	Weekday/Sts. Louis and Joseph Calasanz
1 Cor 1:1-9/Mt 24:42-51	8:30 am Mass: <i>In loving memory of my husband †Chuck Cornell</i> [Kathy Cornell] 7:00 pm ENDOW - FFH
FRI., AUGUST 26	Weekday
1 Cor 1:17-25/Mt 25:1-13	8:30 am Mass: <i>INT: Maureen Doyle's 21st Birthday</i> [John & Tina Doyle]
SAT., AUGUST 27	St. Monica
1 Cor 1:26-31/Mt 25:14-30	3:30-4:30 pm Confession 5:00 pm Vigil Mass: <i>In loving memory of †Victoria Curley</i> [John Curley Family]
SUN., AUGUST 28	Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14	Confessions 8:00-8:15am and 10:00-10:15am 8:30 am Mass: †Joseph Kirk [Kathy Hagerman] 10:30 am Mass: <i>For the People</i>



will not be able.” Jesus pictures the move from this temporal life of sin and sorrow and death, into eternal life as moving through a door. It’s in St. John’s Gospel where we read that Jesus

identifies Himself as that ‘door.’ “Truly, truly I say to you... I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.” (John 10:7-9).

But a ‘narrow’ door means that you have to let go of things in order to fit through it. Let go of all of the baggage that you’ve been holding onto, all those ‘treasures on earth’ that you’ve stored up for yourself as though you could take it all with you but can’t. And all of those ridiculous claims like, “we ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets”. And every single false god that you put your trust in. This ‘stripping off’ of everything except a naked trust in Jesus Christ alone is what ‘repentance’ is all about. And ‘repentance’ is never easy for us sinful and fallen creatures. It’s ‘agonizing’ to let go of the sin that so easily entangles us but you cannot take that through the door into heaven. It’s ‘agonizing’ to let go of your ‘self-confidence’ and put your entire hope in your Lord. But “strive to enter through the narrow door.”

Dear brothers and sisters, if we knew and firmly believed that in our baptism, we already passed through the narrow door, how gladly and joyfully we would strive and agonize to live according to God’s Word as grateful children who want only to thank and praise our gracious God for His mercy and grace towards us. And we would not miss the Sunday Eucharistic celebration and receive the Lord’s body and blood joyfully. With that confidence in the Lord Jesus, we can be free from worrying about our salvation; we don't need to ask whether a few will be saved. Jesus said, “And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at the table in the kingdom of God.” ❖

Please Pray for:	
Charles and Mary Gaylord	Preston and Spencer (2 brothers w/difficult life crises)
Michael Cummings	Alba Pinzani
Rose Pratt	Delores Oakley
Mike Gibbons	Andrea Mendoza
Lee Ann Vitali	Cindy Marie Remski
Christine Baisden	Janet Shurtliff
Bobbie Muldoon	Luke Chisnell
Scott Sangster	David Gaylord
Brandon and Jacinda Baxter	Danielle Lopez
Virginia VanSickle	Mike and his family
Rosemary Desbrough	Joe Schim and his family
Stephanie Rippe, (niece of Betty Cummings)	Mickey
Colonel Gary Dettling	Casey

Need Help?	
Alternatives to Abortion: Call (734)994-8863 or the 24-hour hotline 800-712-HELP or visit arbor woman.com/abortion/	“AA” group meets Tuesdays at 7:00 pm - United Methodist Church, 501 Ann Arbor St.
“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 810-231-9199 ext. 202
“Project Rachel” (post-abortion reconciliation and healing) Call the confidential phone line: 517-993-0291 or email nlc@resurrectionlansing.org	For more news and events in the area, please visit our website: stmarymanchester.org

Parish and Area News

Catholic School to Open in Saline

St. Andrew Catholic Church would like to open a school for grades K-8 in September 2023. As Fr. Bosco announced at last weekend's Masses, the Church is gathering information on families who would like their children to attend the Catholic school in Saline. Fr. John Linden, pastor of St. Andrew, informed Fr. Bosco that the tuition fees will be affordable for all. You will find the non-binding registration intent forms in the vestibule. Please return it to St. Andrew in Saline as soon as possible. You can also scan the QR code if you prefer to fill out the form digitally.

Rummage Sale Thank You

Many hands make work light and the St. Mary Rummage Sale Team is very grateful for all of the helping hands that stepped forward to make this year's rummage sale a success. Whether you provided donations, helped with preparations, sales, clean up, or delivery, your gifts of time, talent, and treasures were the secret to our success. An extra big thank you goes out to the core team of helpers who were there almost daily for two weeks, and to Linda McGee for her leadership during that time. Thanks to your support, this year we raised **\$3,691.91** for our parish family! We look forward to seeing you again next August.

Mark Your Calendars

Please join the parish family for the annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner **Wednesday, September 14th**. Social time will begin at 6:00pm. Dinner will be served at 6:30pm. The event will take place at St. Mary Parish Center.

Endow Small Group Meeting Update

Due to scheduling issues later this month, Endow small group for young women will meet on **Thursday, August 25th** instead of **Tuesday, August 23rd**.

Travel to the Holy Land

Would you like to go on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land with Fr. Larry Richard? The group will travel **May 10-21, 2023**. Please see the fliers in the vestibule of the church. **August 27th** is the deadline to register by making a down payment.

Surviving Divorce!

The St. Andrew's Divorce Ministry Team will be hosting an exciting program that will bring hope and healing to those who have experienced the pain and loneliness of a broken marriage. *Surviving Divorce* features 12 video presentations covering topics that will bring comfort to newly separated and divorced and those still struggling with issues many years later. The course will start **September 1st**. questions? Email David at djmiller57@aol.com Register here: <https://standrewsaline.org/divorce>

A New Year Begins

Religious education classes will be beginning on **Monday, September 12th**. Classes will be held in the Parish Center 3:30-4:45pm. Registration forms can be found in the vestibule of the church. All children 1-7th grade are welcome to attend.

Looking Ahead to Christmas

We are beginning to plan for our Christmas decorations. You might remember seeing the Memorial Christmas tree ornaments we display every year. On the tree near the statue of St. Joseph. (A picture is in the vestibule). If you would like to order one to honor your family members(s), please contact sfielder@umich.edu or 734-972-5652. The order from Bronners will be placed **September 15th** for delivery in time for Christmas. All the bulbs will be gold with white script.

Join 40 Days for Life

The fall campaign will begin on **September 28th** and conclude **November 6th**, with the Kick-off Rally on **September 25th**. Please make an appointment with God at 40daysforlife.com/annarbor and be sure to select the 365 calendar or contact Sandie at 734-657-1936 or plan2pray@gmail.com. For more info text Crista at 734-320-6084. Drop ins are always welcome!

Parish Family Birthdays

Aug 23Mary Cousino
Howard Remski
 Aug 24Bruce Dettloff
 Aug 25Lisa Dobis
Melanie Woods
 Aug 26Maureen Doyle
 Aug 27Mark Nashif



*St. Mary
 Roman Catholic
 Church*

Stewardship

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

Sunday, August 7, 2022

*Sunday Envelopes(76)\$4,912.00
 Loose Cash & Checks.....\$100.00
 Welcome envelopes(2)\$110.00
 Assumption of BVM (1)\$10.00
 E-Giving\$1,229.46*

*Weekly toward budget.....\$6,361.46
 Weekly goal.....\$5,300.00
 Amt. ABOVE goal.....\$1,051.46*

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS:

*Buildings & Maintenance.\$555.00
 Poor Box.....\$51.00
 Votive Candles\$72.00*

Altar Flowers

August 21, 2022

In memory of my sister
 Clara and my best friend
 Gerlinde
 [Pete & Inge Roncolli]



Sanctuary Lamps

are burning this week for:

- In loving Memory of
 †Joyce Stein
 (Nicki & Rich Kennedy)
- In Memory of
 †David Roncoli
 (Scott & Sylvie Strong)

MICHIGAN CATHOLIC
 WOMEN'S CONFERENCE



FOR SUCH A
time as this

"Perhaps you have come to your royal
 dignity for just such a time as this."

**SATURDAY
 OCTOBER 15, 2022
 9am-5pm
 LANSING CENTER • LANSING, MI**

Register: WWW.MICHIGANWC.ORG

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