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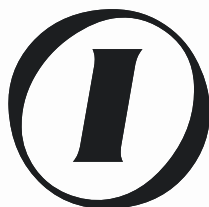
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309 S. LANE ST., BLISSFIELD, MI 49228

PH: 517-447-3500

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

St. Alphonsus

Tuesday & Thursday: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

St. Peter

Monday: 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

St. Alphonsus

Saturday: 5:30 PM - Sunday: 8:00 AM

St. Peter

Saturday: 4:00 PM - Sunday: 11:00 AM

HOLY DAY SCHEDULE

St. Alphonsus: 9:00 AM - St. Peter: 7:00 PM
(this schedule rotates, changing each July)

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

St. Alphonsus

Wednesday and Friday: 9:00 AM

St. Peter

Tuesday and Thursday: 9:00 AM

BAPTISM - Contact the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St. Peter: 2:30-3:30 PM 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturdays

St. Alphonsus: 10:00-11:00 AM 2nd & 4th Saturdays

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Please call the office if someone is in the hospital, sick or homebound and would like to be visited and receive the Eucharist or the Sacrament of the Sick.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Please contact the pastor 9-12 months before preferred date.

PRAYER CHAIN

Contact Person - Millie Larson: 517-447-3636
Rose Forgiel: 517-447-3868

FOOD PANTRY

Open the 2nd Wednesday of the month from 1-3 PM at the Parish Center in Deerfield. (excluding November and December)

PARISH STAFF

PASTOR

Rev. Jeff Poll

jeffreypoll44@gmail.com

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Deanna Burke: deannabdre@gmail.com

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Karen Nevins: karen@karennevins.com
734-730-0007

SECRETARIAL STAFF

Bookkeeper, Parish Data and
Sacramental Records

Nancie Van Black: lightofchristparish@gmail.com

Bulletin Editor and Scheduling

Leanne Goodin: lgoodin@cass.net

Bulletin Deadline: Tuesday at noon. Please email material to: lgoodin@cass.net

MAINTENANCE STAFF

Kim Diver - Director
Ben Burke

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Please call the parish office for contact info.

PARISH COMMISSIONS

Finance Commission
Education Commission
Social Ministry Commission
New Evangelization Commission

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

Men's Club
Altar Rosary Society
Knights of Columbus
Heritage Garden Club

September 24, 2017
Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

CHOOSE GENEROSITY!

We live in a culture that wants us to believe that our personal wealth, influence, or possessions are what makes us valuable. We are encouraged to compete, to measure ourselves against our friends, loved ones, and neighbors. Who has more money? Who has a nicer car? Who works harder? We are greedy and fearful because it is a precarious way to live----at any moment we could lose our place to someone who has more.



In today's parable of the wealthy landowner, we are shown a different way of life. God's generosity offers all laborers the same share in the kingdom of heaven. Boundless, infinite, overflowing----the ability of God to give us beyond our ability to understand. Through God's love, we are not measured on scales, but rather we are incited to live humbly, to take what we have earned and share what we can with others, all for the glory of the kingdom.

Each of us has a decision to make. Do we spend our lives competing and living with fear of being found wanting? Or do we choose a life of generosity, service, and humility, taking our fair share and holding out our hands to help those marginalized by society? Let us choose generosity, following the example found in today's gospel.

Disasters: A Catholic Response
By Lorene Hanley Duquin
(Courtesy of Our Sunday Visitor)

Something terrible happens that leaves people dead, hurt, or homeless. Maybe it's a hurricane, tornado, flood, famine, epidemic, earthquake, tidal wave, or other natural catastrophe. Maybe it's a plane crash, train wreck, industrial mishap, pollution spill, or other horrible accident. Maybe it's a suicide bombing, shooting spree, terrorist attack, or some force of evil caused by human beings.

Whether a disaster happens in your own hometown or on the other side of the world, you may wonder if there is an authentic Catholic response.

The answer is yes.

What Catholics Believe

Active concern for people in need is an integral part of the teachings of Jesus and the traditions of the Catholic Church.

In the Gospels, Jesus assures us that the blessings of God are bestowed on those who help the poor (see Matthew 6:2-4). Jesus shows us a rich man who is denied eternal salvation because he ignored the needs of Lazarus, a hungry beggar (see Luke 16:19-31). Jesus commands us to love one another as He loves us (see John 13:34). Jesus also tells us that when we reach out to others, we reach out to Him. "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me" (Matthew 25:40).

In the early Church, the tradition of outreach to the suffering became firmly established. St. Paul paints a picture of humanity as the Mystical Body of Christ. "If one member suffers, all suffer together" (1 Corinthians 12:26). In the early Christian communities, no one was left in need (see Acts 4:32-35).

Many of the great saints dedicated their lives to helping others. St. Gregory the Great made it clear that reaching out to others is not optional. "When we attend to the needs of those in want," he said, "we give them what is theirs, not ours. More than performing works of mercy, we are paying them a debt of justice."

Today, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* asks a poignant question: "How can we not recognize Lazarus, the hungry beggar ... in the multitude of human beings without bread, a roof or a place to stay?" (no. 2463).

Direct aid to those in need is an authentic Catholic response to a disaster. The question that we must ask ourselves is: *What is the best way to help others in an emergency?*

The best thing you can do immediately after the disaster strikes is pray for the victims of the disaster and for those who will come to their aid. Prayer is powerful and can do more to help than most of us could ever imagine, especially in those moments when we feel most powerless to help.

RCIA
(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Any adult considering becoming Catholic or any adult who is already Catholic but not yet confirmed, please join us. The first session to investigate and discuss the Catholic faith will be held at the Parish Center in Deerfield at 9:00am next Sunday, October 1.

Contact Doug Gillies at 517 673-9319, douggillies24@gmail.com, talk to Fr. Jeff, call the parish office or just come and join us then.

PARISH PICNIC LUCKY WINNERS
Congratulations to the winners of the
Raffle at the Parish Picnic:

First Prize: Deanna Burke
Second Prize: Bob Rains

WEBER CENTER PRESENTATIONS
IN SEPTEMBER INCLUDE TALKS ON
MIGRANT FARM LABOR/THEOLOGY

All are welcome to two special events to be held at Weber Retreat and Conference Center in Adrian at the end of September.

Baldemar Velasquez, President and founder of the Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC), will share the amazing story of this organization, founded 50 years ago, and its impact in giving migrant farm workers a voice. Mr. Velasquez's presentation, "Celebrating 50 Years of Struggle: The Story of the Farm Labor Organizing Committee," will be held from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, September 28, 2017. The event is free and open to the public. No registration is required.

Dr. John F. Haught, a systematic theologian and Distinguished Research Professor at Georgetown University, will explore how our changing understanding of the cosmos influences our understanding of God, our religion, and our religious traditions. Dr. Haught's talk, "Faith and Theology for an Unfinished Universe," will be from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, September 30, 2017. The \$45 fee includes lunch. Registration and a non-refundable deposit of \$10 are required. To register, call 517-266-4000 or go online, <https://weber.adriandominicans.org/Registration.aspx>

Weber Center is located on the Motherhouse Campus of the Adrian Dominican Sisters, East of Siena Heights University. For information, call Weber Center at 517-266-4000.

KNIGHTS NEWS



Every Knight and his family is invited to participate with the 4TH Degree Knights in a Corporate Communion during the 5:30 PM Mass on Saturday, October 14, at St. Alphonsus. All participants will be treated to a Potluck Dinner after Mass in the SALT Center. Please bring a dish to pass. Meat will be provided by the 4TH Degree. For details, please call Mark at 734 637-9254.

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all the Knights and their families as well as all the parishioners who helped make the Parish Picnic a complete success.

40 Days for Life, a witness to the dignity of human life, begins September 27, ends November 5, and all parishioners and Knights are encouraged to participate in one of 3 ways: prayer and fasting, community outreach, or peaceful vigil. You may choose to pray for an hour in front of the Capital Care Network, the Toledo abortion clinic, 1160 W. Sylvania Avenue, Toledo, OH. To pick your date and time, please sign up at www.40daysforlife.com/toledo.

About 1,000,000 American Catholics will pray the Joyous Mysteries of the Rosary at noon on Saturday, October 14, to celebrate the 100 year anniversary of the Our Lady of Fatima apparitions to Lucia, Jacinta, and Francisco, 3 young shepherd children. Please pray the Rosary that day. If you wish to organize a Rosary Rally and receive a banner and manual please visit www.americanneedsfatima.org or call 866 584-6012 by October 6.

Please pray for a safe and bountiful Fall harvest.

SPECIAL MASS

The Archdiocese of Detroit is having a special Mass at 10:15 AM on October 1 at St. Anastasia Church, 4571 John R, Troy, MI for people with disabilities. Bishop Arturo Cepeda will celebrate Mass and Fr. Mike Depcik will be one of the concelebrants. For additional information, contact 586-416-2300, ext. 4032 or hyttinenj@ccsem.org.

DAY OF REFLECTION

Day of Reflection with Fr. Ken McKenna, Saturday, October 21, 2017 at St. John's Deaf Center, 16103 Chesterfield Avenue, Eastpointe, MI. To register or questions, please email jakkifelix04@gmail.com or call St. John's Deaf Center (SJDC) Office VP: 586-439-0146.

SCHEDULED MASSES WITH INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday, Sep. 26 - 9:00 AM - St. Peter
In memory of Thomas Pirolli
11 years

Wed., Sep. 27 - 9:00 AM - St. Alphonsus
In memory of Janet Newell
29 years

Thursday, Sep. 28 - 9:00 AM - St. Peter
In memory of Jeanette Murbach
25 years

Fri., Sep. 29 - 9:00 AM - St. Alphonsus
In memory of Stephanie Iott
50 years

Saturday, September 30
Vigil

4:00 PM - St. Peter
In memory of Josephine Ondrovich
by Georgina Oprsal

5:30 PM - St. Alphonsus
In memory of Carol Mueller
by Marie Woodbury

Sunday, October 1

8:00 AM - St. Alphonsus
In memory of Scott Scholl
by family

10:00 AM - St. Peter
In memory of Jim Witt
by Sandra L. Ryan

*Both in
Life
&
Death
we are the
Lord's*

~READINGS FOR THE WEEK~

Twenty-Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time
September 24, 2017
Isaiah 55:6-9
Philippians 1:20c-24,27a
Matthew 20:1-16a

Twenty-Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time
October 1, 2017
Ezekiel 18:25-28
Philippians 2:1-11 or 2:1-5
Matthew 21:28-32

What you do matters!

Our children need you! We all want a good Religious Education Program for our children, but only volunteers like you can make that happen!
We are still in need of:

Blissfield: Assistant/Co-Catechists for 1st/2nd and 5th/6th Grade classes
Deerfield: 5th/6th Grade Catechist & Assistant/Co-Catechists for 1st/2nd, 3rd/4th, & 5th/6th classrooms.

9th/Confirmation 1 (which is combined and alternates sites for classes)

Join us! Please prayerfully consider if God is calling you. Please contact Deanna Burke at deannabdre@gmail.com, or Office (517 447-3500) for more information about this important ministry.

Hurricane Harvey--Helping Hands School Supplies Donation Drive

Former parishioner Amanda Escobedo-Esquivel teaches in a small community near Corpus Christi called Aransas Pass. The community and school were severely devastated by Hurricane Harvey. Please consider donating school items to replenish those lost by flooding and water damage. You may drop items off in the crates at either site. Children and teens may bring donations to Religious Education class Sept. 24th & Oct. 1st.

Donation deadline is Friday, October 6th.

The following are suggested supplies which could be used in the classrooms:

Glue Sticks, Rulers, Markers, Pencils,
Colored Pencils, Crayons, Scissors,
Scotch Tape, Copy Paper, Index Cards,
Spiral Notebooks, Binders, Poster Board,
Plastic Crates, etc.

Schools are projected to reopen sometime in October. Materials collected will be taken to Texas for distribution to the classrooms by then.

Thank you in advance for your help!

Stewardship Report September 16/17, 2017

Total Sunday: \$3,581.00
Total Loose: \$159.00
Mercy Fund: \$35.00
Faith Magazine: \$5.00
Hurricane Relief: \$20.00

Total Envelopes: 120

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sunday, September 24

✠Religious Education✠
Deerfield, 9:15-10:30 AM **CGS begins 10/1**
Blissfield, 9:30-10:45 AM
HS @ Deerfield, Student/Parent Meeting,
6:00-8:00 PM

Tuesday, September 26

✠Cantor/Choir Rehearsal✠
Deerfield, 6:30/7:00 PM

Sunday, October 1

✠Religious Education✠
Deerfield, 9:15-10:30 AM
Blissfield, 9:30-10:45 AM
No HS

NEW DATE

Faith in Action Benefit Dinner



Featuring our very own **"Men in Black"**
Fr. Tim MacDonald & Fr. Joe Krupp

**NEW DATE
THURSDAY
OCTOBER 5, 2017**

Learn how to become a
member of Catholic Charities'
**St. Teresa of Calcutta
Giving Society**



St. Rita's Catholic Church, Clarklake
\$30/person - Mass @ 6:30 pm (optional) - Dinner @ 7:15 pm
Call: 517.879.0599 Email: info@CatholicCharitiesJLHC.org

Liturgy of the Word for Children

If you've ever witnessed the children's smiling faces as they return to 11:00 Mass, you know it is a meaningful program. This ministry involves proclaiming the Word to children and completing an activity to reinforce the message with materials that are provided and simple to follow. Please prayerfully consider volunteering in this special ministry. Please contact Deanna Burke (447-3500 office, email: deannabdre@gmail.com) for more information or if you would like to volunteer.

LET US PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND SHUT-INS

Larry Bielski	Norma Kelly
Becky Branscum	Marie Kieplinski
Becky Brewer	JoAnn McGovern
Finola Campbell	Les & Cindy Miller
Isabelle DeLaCruz	Shelly Molaro
Ann DeNudt	Joseph Mueller
Webb Drew	John Musielewicz
Carmen Garcia	Barb Nowak
Mary Genchi	Bev Pifer
Katy Goodman	Don Pozo
Makenzie Greer	Patty Rank
Barbara Hadden	Pat Riley
Joan Hamilton	Jim Sheldon
Carrie Hartley	Lena Silva
Kristie Horkey	Vivian Tack
Marilyn Iott	Diane Vergote
Ed Jacobson	Flo Wentworth
Susan Johnson	Catherine Welfaert
	Mark Willaert

Please call the parish office if you would like to receive the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, which can be done before/after mass, at your home or in the hospital. Also, if you or someone you know is on the above list and no longer needs to be, please contact the office.