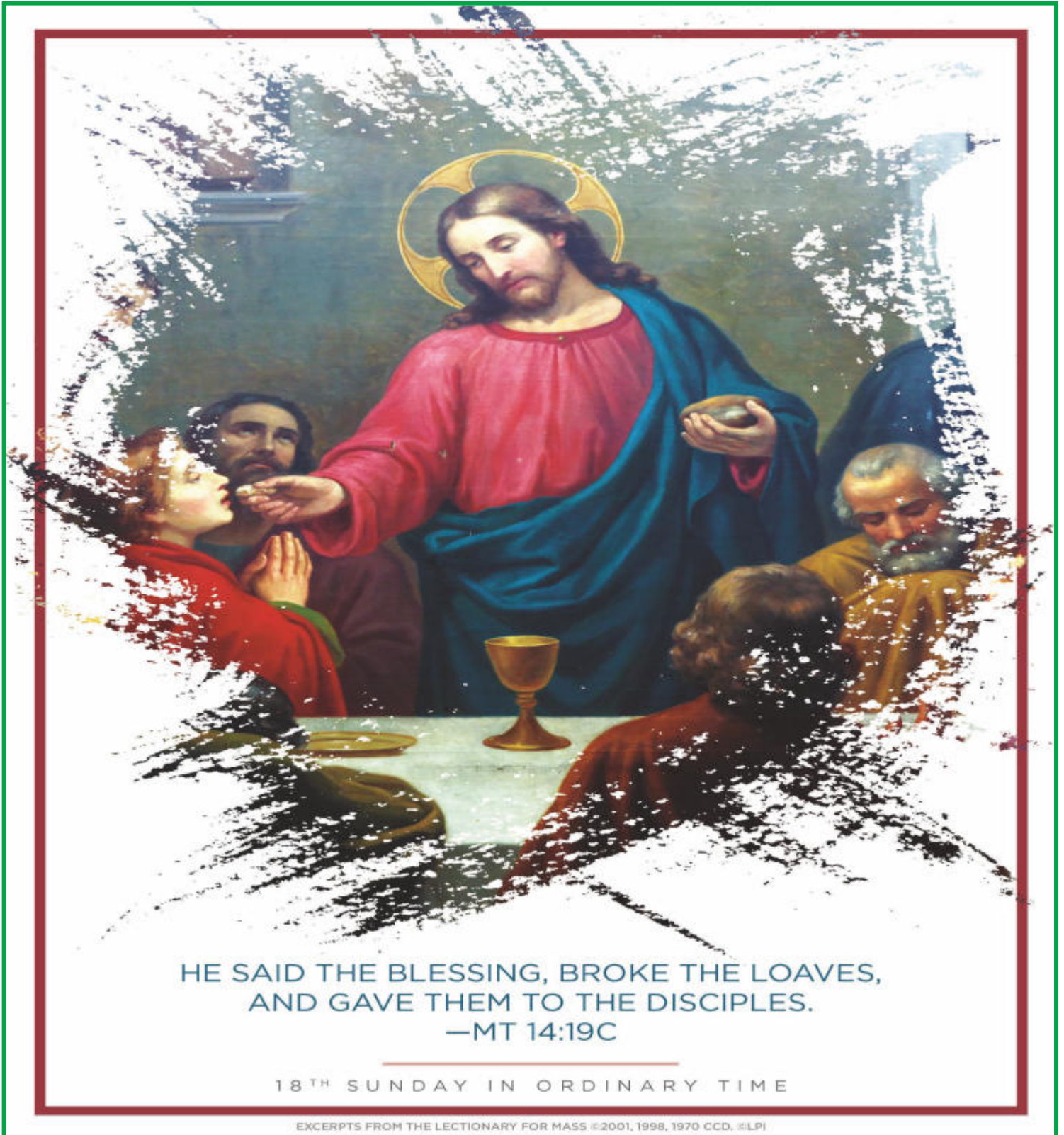




Saint Matthew Church **The PULSE**

August 2, 2020

Detroit, Michigan



HE SAID THE BLESSING, BROKE THE LOAVES,
AND GAVE THEM TO THE DISCIPLES.
—MT 14:19C

18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

Readings for the Week of August 2, 2020

Sunday: Is 55:1-3/Ps 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18 [cf. 16]/
Rom 8:35, 37-39/Mt 14:13-21
Monday: Jer 28:1-17/Ps 119:29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102
[68b]/Mt 14:22-36
Tuesday: Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22/Ps 102:16-18, 19-21,
29 and 22-23 [17]/Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-
2, 10-14
Wednesday: Jer 31:1-7/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13 [cf. 10d]/
Mt 15:21-28
Thursday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9 [1a, 9a]/
2 Pt 1:16-19/Mt 17:1-9
Friday: Na 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7/Dt 32:35cd-36ab, 39abcd,
41 [39c]/Mt 16:24-28
Saturday: Hb 1:12—2:4/Ps 9:8-9, 10-11, 12-13 [11b]/
Mt 17:14-20
Next Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a/Ps 85:9, 10, 11-12, 13-
14 [8]/Rom 9:1-5/Mt 14:22-33



18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Many people in our world are hungry and thirsty. This hunger and thirst go well beyond physical needs for food, security, and shelter. Many are emotionally and spiritually parched, too. Behind every act

of violence is a soul who hungers. People live with relationships that actually starve them. They are abused, exploited, disrespected, laughed at, and marginalized. There is a lot of confusion and inner pain that needs to be acknowledged and expressed. We all long to be understood and loved, even when our inner demons or who I am make it difficult to be. Do you live with inner confusion and pain? Folks often wander through life without any real direction or purpose and take their cues from what seems satisfying or popular at the moment. The deeper dots of our lives can easily remain unconnected, and we can find ourselves without grounding, purpose, or real happiness. Life becomes shallow and without real purpose as we hunger and thirst for an ultimate love.

It's easier to see the physical hungers and thirsts. We try to respond to these as best we can. Much more needs to be done. With all that God's earth can provide, nobody ought to face sleep at night with a belly that's empty. It's sinful. It's unjust. But isn't all hunger unjust? It doesn't need to be, and it should not be. Just as no one ought to be physically hungry and thirsty, there is really no need to be emotionally or spiritually deficient either. If we have more privileges at our fingertips, it is easier to try to satisfy our emotional and spiritual hungers and thirst by acting on impulse or self-indulgence, carelessly following passions, or by seeking self-destructive ways to dull the ache of emptiness.

Folks need to know where to look for nourishment and need the right friends to help them find it. We may not think that we have enough to respond to and to satisfy all of the needs, but we do. It doesn't take much. Five loaves and two fish provided for a huge crowd. With God, all things are possible. Our faith provides the direction for where God's children must go to find the nourishment they seek. It also tells us how to structure life so that justice and equity can be a reality for all. It also tells us how to respond to pain, sinfulness, and confusion. Come to the water and then help another get there.



All three synoptic gospels tell the story of the transfiguration of Jesus (Matt. 17:1-13; Mark 9:3-13; Luke 9:28-36)—frequently a sign of the importance of an event from Jesus' life for the early Christian community. The transfiguration is a highly symbolic story. Jesus took his inner circle of apostles—Peter, James, and John—up a mountain, which in the Bible is a place of revelation, so it was clear something important was about to happen.

These three apostles then saw Jesus as part of another important trio, completed with Moses and Elijah, symbols of Israelite tradition. As if that weren't spectacular enough, the voice of God itself made an appearance, uttering two thundering phrases: "This is my Son" and "Listen to him."

Unfortunately, none of the apostles' reactions showed that they understood what had just happened. First of all, they were half-asleep when the whole thing started—not the last time that would happen at a key moment. They were also terrified to the point of talking nonsense about building shelters for the holy figures. Then on the way down they started an off-topic debate about the resurrection and Elijah.

What the apostles didn't grasp right away was the significance of the fact that Moses and Elijah were "talking with" Jesus. This sacred conversation identified Jesus with the law and the prophets. It showed how Jesus had the same authority as these two pillars of Israel's tradition and how that authority came from the same God. To leave no doubt, God's voice drove home the point with words heard at an earlier affirmation of Jesus' status, his baptism: "This is my son, the beloved" (Matt. 3:17).

What the apostles also didn't get at first was that they couldn't stay on the mountain. One can sympathize with their desire for such a wondrous break from the difficult path of discipleship. Down the mountain and back to that task, however, they had to go.

The Gospel of Luke adds a delicious detail: Moses and Elijah had been speaking with Jesus "of his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem." His exodus? That loaded word points back to the sometimes arduous journey of following Jesus, and that's what the transfiguration is about. It's wonderful to find inspiration in a shining vision of Jesus, but the message to the church then and now is that witnessing glory is one thing, following is another. After the vision is over, you look up and see, as the apostles did, "Jesus only," and you realize that, to get to the further glory of eternal life, you have to follow him to the cross.

St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

Saturday, August 1, and Sunday, August 2, 4:30 pm and 10 am Masses, respectively - Last Weekend for the Co-op Mission Appeal, Propagation of the Faith Collection for the Servite Missions.

Tuesday, August 4, 7 am to 8 pm - Remember to Vote, Primary Elections



Pregnancy Aid Layette

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we, as a parish, were unable to collect donations for our annual Mothers' Day Layette Drive. The parish office contacted Nancy Antner, the Director of Pregnancy Aid, to ask if there was anything that St. Matthew Parish could do to help them during this time as they minister to mothers in need.

Nancy explained that they were very low on all sorts of supplies and noted those items most needed. It was determined that St. Matthew's would again have a layette drive on the weekend of August 14 and August 15 in honor of the Feast of the Assumption the Mary. This appeared to be the most fitting time since we did not hold it during the month of May, Mary's month.

The following are the items that are most needed. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please enclose a check (no cash) in an envelope marked "Pregnancy Aid" and place it in the collection basket, drop it off at the rectory, or give it to Father or Marilyn.

- ♦ Baby bibs and infant caps (knitted, crocheted, or purchased)
- ♦ Receiving blankets
- ♦ Baby afghans
- ♦ Onesies or baby sleepers (size 0 to 6 mos)
- ♦ Diapers (size 5 and 6)
- ♦ Baby bottles
- ♦ Baby hygiene products and baby wipes (no talcum powder)
- ♦ Pack and Plays (new or gently used)

The Pregnancy Aid Layette Drive will start on Saturday, August 14, and continue through to Sunday, August 23. A baby basinet will be placed at the Blessed Mother's altar for your donations. Any thing you can do will be most appreciated.

The Order of Friar Servants of Mary (Servites)

Today we continue with our collection for the Servite Missions. Remember their work in Zululand in South Africa, where education is being provided to those they serve, assistance with farming, and medical aid. The fruits of their labor have resulted in vocations among the Zulu people with two men recently ordained to the priesthood.

Remember them both spiritually and financially so they can continue their missionary work as the Church of KwaZulu-Natal. A specially marked basket for your donation is located on the communion rail. Thanks for your generosity.

CSA 2020 Prayer

Loving and Generous Father,
we praise you and give you thanks for
the gifts of our faith and your abundant grace.
We thank you for the gift of your Son Jesus
in the Eucharist,
the source and summit of our faith
and the nourishment for our life's journey.
This Precious Gift fuels the movement
of the Holy Spirit among us
as we embrace our mission to Unleash the Gospel.

Bless in a special way our own commitment
to be faithful stewards of your gifts
through our prayers, service, and generosity
in support of the many good works in our parishes
and throughout the Archdiocese of Detroit
funded by the Catholic Services Appeal

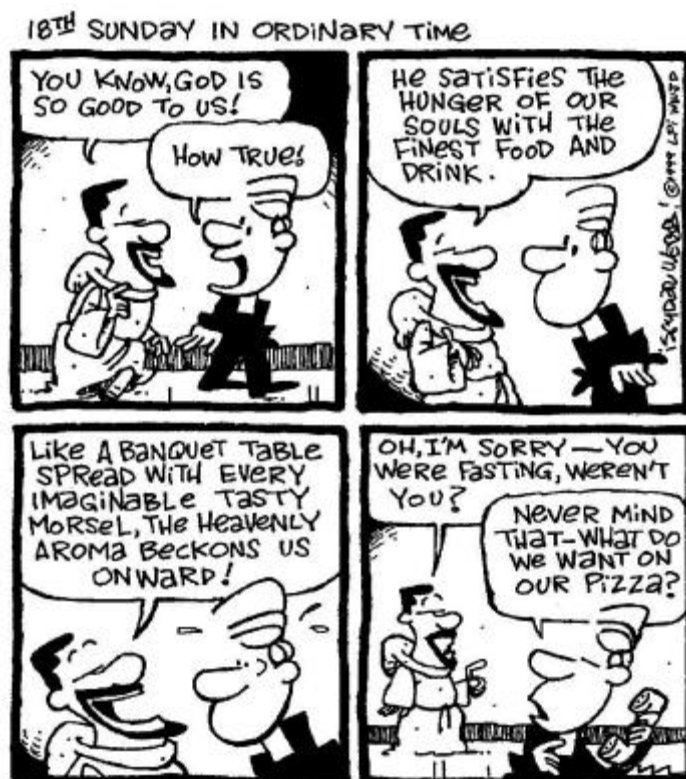
This we pray through your Son, Jesus,
who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
for ever and ever. Amen.



A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

The apostles were just being practical when they asked Jesus to "dismiss the crowds to go buy food." Jesus knew there is always enough when we place our trust in the Father, even with just five loaves and fishes. Trust is the bridge to miracles.



ST. MATTHEW'S PARISH DIRECTORY

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Dennis Costello ~ *St. Vincent de Paul / Christian Service*
Dan McBride ~ *St. Vincent de Paul / Christian Service*

WEEKEND/WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	4:30 p.m.
Sunday	10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday	9:00 a.m.
Reconciliation	By Appointment
Holydays	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.



In your prayers...

Please remember those in our parish and in our families who are sick or in need of our prayers.

Chuck Schuster	David Beaupre
Lolita Dorado	Kenneth Beaupre
Albert Fajardo	Anthony Crimando
Madeline O'Neill	Rosemary Schoolcraft
Kurt Beghuyn	Tiffany Gelle
Sebastiano Stellino	Robert Stark
Teresita Covacha	Pauline Williams
Joe Petrylka	Bill Solomon
Roger Sharpe	Eloise Parker
Nenette Ferreria	Kelly Kranson
Anthony Mastronardi	Herb and Jeanne Damman
Eduardo Fajardo	Doreen Redman
Kathy Bush	Dennis Corbett
Glenda Johnson	Alice Rapas
Stephanie Smith	Sarah Wagner
Janet Law	
Laura Alix	
Betty Leone	
Michelle Harter	
Jo Marie Nardi	

Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

LECTORS

SERVERS

Saturday, August 8, 2020, 4:30 p.m.

Julie Smith

Lauren Smith

Sunday, August 9, 2020, 10:00 a.m.

Mary Ann Pilette

Lauren Gross
Julia Zuerblis

Mass Schedule

Saturday, August 1 - Vigil: 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30 p.m. - For the People of St. Matthew Parish

Sunday, August 2 - 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, Brother Hugh Denomme, FMMA

Monday, August 3 -

Tuesday, August 4 - St. John Vianney, Priest

9:00 a.m. - For an Increase in Vocations to the Priesthood

Wednesday, August 5 - The Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major

9:00 a.m. - For an End to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Thursday, August 6 - Transfiguration of the Lord

Friday, August 7 - St. Sixtus II, Pope, and Companions,

Martyrs: St. Cajetan, Priest

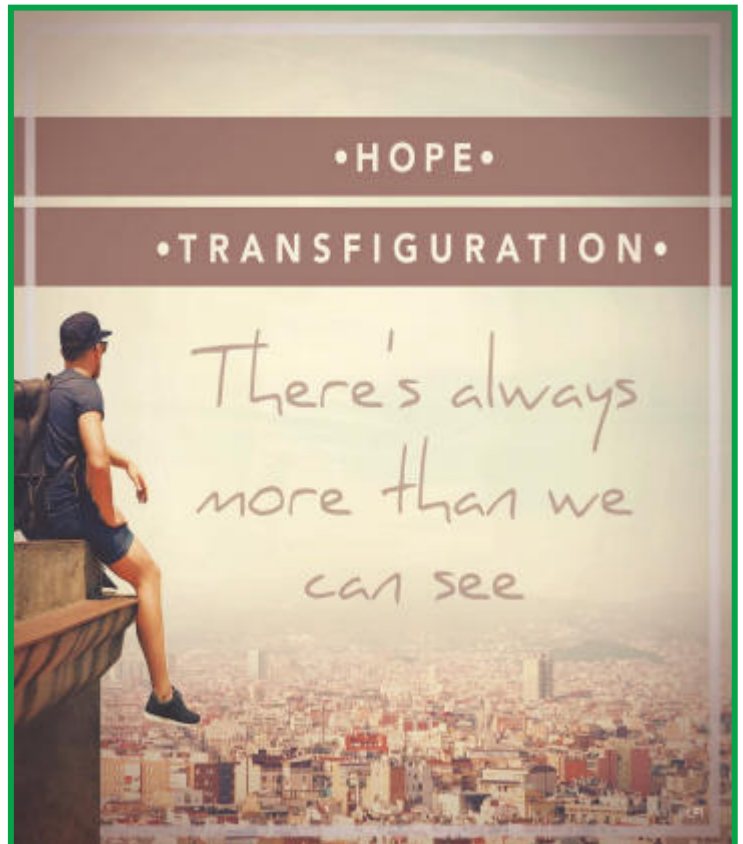
9:00 a.m. - Raymond and Sylvia Novelly (10th Anniv)

Saturday, August 8 - Vigil: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30 p.m. - For the People of St. Matthew Parish

Sunday, August 9 - 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00 a.m. - Judy Stark, Sophie Bush, Betty Amara (23rd Anniv),
The Reyes Family, Robert Lynn, Raymond and
Sylvia Novelly (10th Anniv)



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