



# Saint Matthew Church The PULSE

October 2, 2022

Detroit, Michigan



*27<sup>th</sup> Sunday*  
IN ORDINARY TIME

"When you have done all you have been commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants; we have done what we were obliged to do.'" - Lk 17:10b

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**RESPECT  
LIFE**

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## From Father Duane's Desk

In a few weeks, the citizens of the State of Michigan will go to the polls and vote. In fact, due to the recent trend since the pandemic, "absentee" ballots have already gone out. Which means voting has begun! The electorate will choose their particular candidates which is complicated, even more so this time because of the critical issue of Proposal 3 which would allow for unrestricted and unregulated abortion enshrined in our State's constitution.

At the request of Archbishop Vigneron coupled with my own convictions based on sound moral and ethical values, not even mentioning the myths and misconceptions surrounding the medical issues associated with the abortion procedures, I have been and will continue to preach and write about the intrinsic evil abortion is.

I urge every one to vote **NO** on Proposal 3! But also I need your help to get this message out beyond the confines of our worship space, our church. We all need to be on the front line of this most important discussion. We have not had such a grave moral issue to decide on since the 1990's with the proposal on assisted suicide. The Catholic vote made a difference at that time, and the legalization of assisted suicide did not become law in the State of Michigan. So many years after I think we can see the wisdom of our decision, and we as Catholics made a difference. The trend has dissipated, and we are on the right side of history and moral judgement.

It is right and good for us to have that same position on abortion. An issue that is looming large and trending as a "reproductive right." When, in fact, that language is morally incorrect. The only "right" we have is to cooperate in God's creation, a God-given "right to life!" For God said, "Go and multiply and fill the earth", and he said "It is good." Nowhere in the Scriptures do I read God said we have the "right to choose" based on our needs or wants at the time.

We, as Catholics, are respected in the world for our high moral and ethical standards. We always have been since the beginning of the church itself in the First Century. For that reason, when we fail to maintain those standards, we are harshly criticized by culture at large. We cannot allow ourselves to lower our standards. We cannot allow ourselves to be accused of silence on this issue.

For this reason, I implore you to read and seek all the information you can on this issue and vote with a conscience that stands firm and conforms itself to the high moral standards we profess. Invite others to do the same. Do not let yourselves be taken in by the rhetoric "my body, my choice," or that we have a "reproductive right" to end human life.

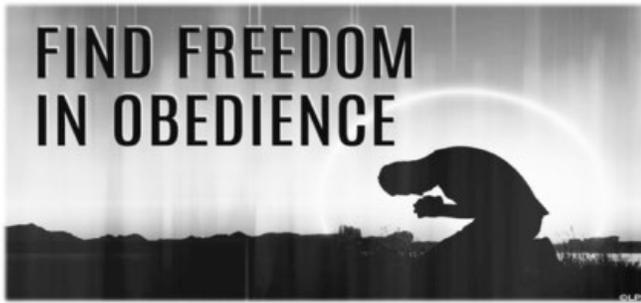
Next week, I'll write to point out some of the pitfalls that the proposal promulgates and warn against believing false or misguided rhetoric. The future of our State is too important to be apathetic on this issue.

Please vote and vote **NO** on Proposal 3. It is not good, it is not good for our State, and it is not good for our moral life. In the end, we will have to stand before God on our decision

May God bless us, care for us, and pray for the people of the State of Michigan.

## Readings for the Week of October 2, 2022

Sunday: Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14/Lk 17:5-10  
Monday: Gal 1:6-12/Ps 111:1b-2, 7-8, 9 and 10c/Lk 10:25-37  
Tuesday: Gal 1:13-24/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15/Lk 10:38-42  
Wednesday: Gal 2:1-2, 7-14/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Lk 11:1-4  
Thursday: Gal 3:1-5/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/Lk 11:5-13  
Friday: Gal 3:7-14/Ps 111:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 11:15-26  
Saturday: Gal 3:22-29/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 11:27-28  
Next Sunday: 2 Kgs 5:14-17/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4/2 Tm 2:8-13/Lk 17:11-19



### 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

As adults, unless we are dealing with children, “obedience” is not a word we typically like to hear. It often brings connotations of military protocols, deference to superiors at work, or conforming to laws and practices. In a culture that has learned to challenge authority, being obedient is understood more as something I “have” to do, not “want” to do. Do you ever see merit in wanting to be obedient? Encouraged to develop independent, self-sufficient egos and personas, we learn to focus on our own wills and merits as we strive for success and achieve a sense of well-being. Giving ourselves over to the will of another, especially when done blindly, can sometimes carry more risk than we are willing to take. Also, blindly following orders without any deference to ethics or morality can lead to atrocious crimes and violence against humanity.

St. Ignatius of Loyola states, “There are three sorts of obedience; the first, obedience when a strict obligation is imposed upon us, and this is good; the second when the simple word of the superior, without any strict command, suffices for us, and this is better; the third, when a thing is done without waiting for an express command, from a knowledge that it will be pleasing to the superior, and this is the best of all.” St. Ignatius sees obedience as an act of love. When the person we are obeying genuinely has our best interest in mind, acting themselves with love and integrity, then what St. Ignatius says makes excellent sense. When mutual trust and a bond of love and respect are present, obedience can lead to freedom and truth.

We ask God to increase our faith. In other words, increase our trust that God knows best how to live and act in this world. We desire the same confidence, determination, and patience Jesus had that the fulfillment of God’s vision would one day come. Nurturing a deep love of God and trusting in his providence, we obediently do what we know is pleasing to God: love, repent of sin, show mercy, be compassionate and fight injustice. As we willingly give witness to our faith, we do only what we are obliged to do, expecting nothing in return. Spared from the task of having to figure it all out for ourselves, we discover freedom.

According to Christian tradition, every one of us has a guardian angel, who accompanies us from the moment we’re born until the moment of our death, and stays at our side at every moment of our life. The idea of a spirit, of a supernatural entity that follows and supervises every human being, was already present in other religions and in Greek philosophy. In the Old Testament, we can read that God is surrounded by a genuine court of heavenly figures who worship Him and perform actions in His name. Even in these ancient books, there are frequent references to angels sent by God as protectors of people and individuals, as well as messengers. In the Gospel, Jesus invites us to respect even the smallest and humble, in a reference to their angels, who watch over them from heaven and contemplate the face of God at every moment.

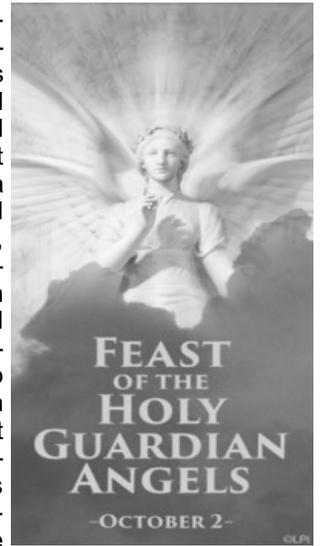
The Guardian Angel, therefore, is linked to anyone who lives within God’s grace. The Fathers of the Church, like Tertullian, Saint Augustine, Saint Ambrose, Saint John Chrysostom, Saint Jerome and Saint Gregory of Nyssa, maintained that a guardian angel existed for each person, and although there was not yet a dogmatic formulation concerning this figure, already during the Council of Trent (1545 – 1563), it was stated that every human being had their own angel.

From the 17th Century onwards, the spread of popular devotion increased and Pope Paul V added the festival of guardian angels to the calendar. Also in sacred representations and above all, in the images of popular devotion, Guardian Angels began to appear and were usually depicted in the act of protecting children from harm. In fact, it is especially by children that we are encouraged to talk with our Guardian Angels, and to address our prayers to them. As we grow up, this blind trust, this unconditional love towards an invisible yet extraordinarily reassuring presence, fades. This we know about Guardian Angels.

1. *Guardian angels exist.*
2. *Angels have always existed.*
3. *There is an angelic hierarchy and not all angels are destined to become Guardian Angels.*
4. *We all have one.*
5. *Our Angel guides us on the pathway to Heaven.*
6. *Our Angel never abandons us.*
7. *Our Angel is not the spirit of a dead person.*
8. *Our Guardian Angel has no name.*
9. *Our Angel fights on our side with all his strength.*
10. *Our Guardian Angel is also our personal messenger, charged with bringing our messages to God, and vice versa.*

It is to the angels that God addresses himself in communicating with us. Their job is to make us understand his Word, and move us in the right direction.

*“Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God’s love commits me here, ever this day be at my side to light, to guard, to rule, to guide. Amen.”*



## St. Matthew Parish ~ Happenings

**Saturday, October 1, and Sunday, October 2 - Our St. Matthew "Sock it to Us" Continues!**

**Saturday, October 1, and Sunday, October 2, 4:30 pm and 10 am Masses, respectively - SOCK Signature Card Campaign**

**Sunday, October 2, following 10 am Mass - St. Matthew St. Vincent de Paul Conference Meeting, Church Auditorium**

**~ MARK YOUR CALENDARS ~**

**Saturday, October 15,  
and Sunday, October 16,  
2022 Gold'n Harvest 50/50 Raffle Kick off!**

**Sunday, October 16, following 10 am Mass - Flu Shots will be Available Courtesy of Rite-Aid Pharmacy, Church Auditorium**

### 2022 SOCK (Support our Capuchin Kitchen) This weekend only!

Many people in our community are hungry. The Capuchin Soup Kitchen strives to satisfy not only physical hunger, but spiritual, social, and intellectual hungers as well. They are asking our parish to participate in their annual Parish Signature Drive in support of their programs and services.

On this weekend of Saturday, October 1, and Sunday, October 2, following the Masses, there will be a volunteer in the back vestibule to collection signatures and donations to support the Capuchin Soup Kitchen. **This is the only weekend we will have this opportunity!**

For a tax-deductible donation of \$20, you can join parishioners from throughout the Archdiocese in having your signature printed in the 2022 50th Anniversary SOCK program book.

Please help represent our parish in supporting the Capuchin Soup Kitchen!

### A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

Faith is one of those things we just can't get enough of! In today's Gospel, the apostles asked Jesus to "increase our faith." It is faith in ourselves, our spouse, our children, and our parents which equips us to overlook annoyances, helps us to forgive, and urges us to ask forgiveness. "Lord, increase our faith!"

### Violent Conflict! ~ Pray for Ukraine!

Jesus teaches us "Blessed are the peacemakers" and to "love your enemies." All human beings are made in God's image and likeness. We are one human family — brothers and sisters despite what divides us. Christians have the obligation to prioritize peaceful means to resolve conflicts. War wreaks a toll on a nation. Civilians bear a disproportionate burden of this cost during the war itself and as the nation rebuilds. However, those in authority have the obligation to protect the innocent.

During the gradual fall of the Roman Empire, theologians began to theorize that war could be just if it was a defensive measure of last resort. The "Just War Theory" was later expanded by St. Thomas Aquinas, who also included moral obligations during the war itself, including the protection of civilians. Those in public authority have the obligation to carefully examine their motives, agendas, and rationale for violent force. Should a cause be just, those who fight and defend under such circumstances must be valued and honored. They deserve our support both during and after the war.

## CSA Minute ~ Sharing Christ



Please prayerfully consider a pledge to CSA. You won't regret it. It is an act of charity for the sustainability of St. Matthew Parish. God bless you for whatever you can do.



### "SOCK IT TO US"

Keep people in our community warm this winter. Until October 31, the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Wayne County sponsored by Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan are holding their 30th annual sock collection. This effort is meeting an important need in the community. Socks, while necessary, are rarely collected and distributed. The socks we collect will be distributed to veterans and their families and human services agencies throughout Wayne County.

**New socks** of all sizes, colors, and patterns for men, women, and children are needed. Patterned and colorful socks for pre-school age children are particularly welcome. In 2021, 19,336 pairs of sock were collected by 35 different agencies and individuals and then distributed to 18 community organizations. Your generosity last year yielded 568 pairs of socks which covered 1,136 feet.

Again, we are joining this effort to continue to help keep people warm this winter in Michigan. Their goal is to collect more socks than ever before, maybe reaching a total of over 20,000 socks!

A special "laundry basket" is placed at the St. Matthew statue for your donations. Please help in this most simple and easy way. If you desire, monetary donations are welcome to help purchase socks. **Please do not remove any labels on the socks.** These are needed for the sorting process.

St. Matthew parishioners can make a difference by "socking it to us." With thanks from CCSEM and RSVP.

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



THAT'S  
"IN THE  
SEA," NOT  
"BY THE  
POND."



I DON'T  
WANT IT  
IN THE  
SEA, I  
WANT IT  
OVER  
THERE  
BY THE  
POND.



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David Troiano ~ *Organist*

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Gloria Bermudez ~ *Bookkeeper*

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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.*

Anthony Mastronardi  
Stephanie Smith  
Janet Law  
Laura Alix  
Jo Marie Nardi  
Anthony Crimauco  
Rosemary Schoolcraft  
Tiffany Gelle  
Pauline Williams  
Herb Damman  
Sarah Wagner  
Albert Fajardo  
Aurora Guinto  
Jesse Ocampo  
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Elsa Camazzola

William Walker IV  
Nancy Clemons  
Robert Rabe  
Lynn Simoncini  
Joan Nardi  
Barbara Foley  
Carol Henk  
Jim Krause  
Michele Stearns  
Fatima Dorado

# Ministers, Lectors, and Servers

## LECTORS

## SERVERS

Saturday, October 8, 2022, 4:30 p.m.  
Bryan Jones  
Bruce Campbell

Sunday, October 9, 2022, 10:00 a.m.  
Liz Foley-Dunstone  
Emmanuel Kole-James  
Samuel Kole-James  
Julia Zuerblis

## Mass Schedule

**Saturday, October 1 - Vigil: 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
4:30 p.m. - For the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

**Sunday, October 2 - 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
10:00 a.m. - The Gerald Novelly Family, Genoveva Nogoy (52nd Anniv)

**Monday, October 3 -**

**Tuesday, October 4 - St. Francis of Assisi**  
9:00 a.m. - For the Poor and Needy in our Community

**Wednesday, October 5 - St. Faustina Kowalska, Virgin; Bld. Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest**  
9:00 a.m. - For Missionaries Serving around the World

**Thursday, October 6 - St. Bruno, Priest; Bld. Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin**

**Friday, October 7 - Our Lady of the Rosary**  
9:00 a.m. - For an End to the War in Ukraine

**Saturday, October 8 - Vigil: 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
4:30 p.m. - For the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

**Sunday, October 9 - 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
10:00 a.m. - Paul Coen, Robert Stark



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