

# ST. MARY, CAUSE OF OUR JOY

8200 N. WAYNE ROAD, WESTLAND, MI | 734-425-4421 | WWW.STMARYCOOJ.ORG

## January 14, 2024

### Notes from Fr. Sean Bonner....

#### In Today's Gospel

John the Baptist was sent ahead as "the voice of one crying out in the desert, 'make straight the way of the Lord.'" (Jn 1:23) In today's gospel, after identifying Jesus as the "Lamb of God," John says the Jesus "is the one of whom I said, 'A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.'" (Jn 1:30)

After hearing this, Andrew leaves John the Baptist to follow Jesus. As he begins to follow Jesus, he finds his brother Simon. Jesus recognized something in Simon and told him that he would be called Peter.

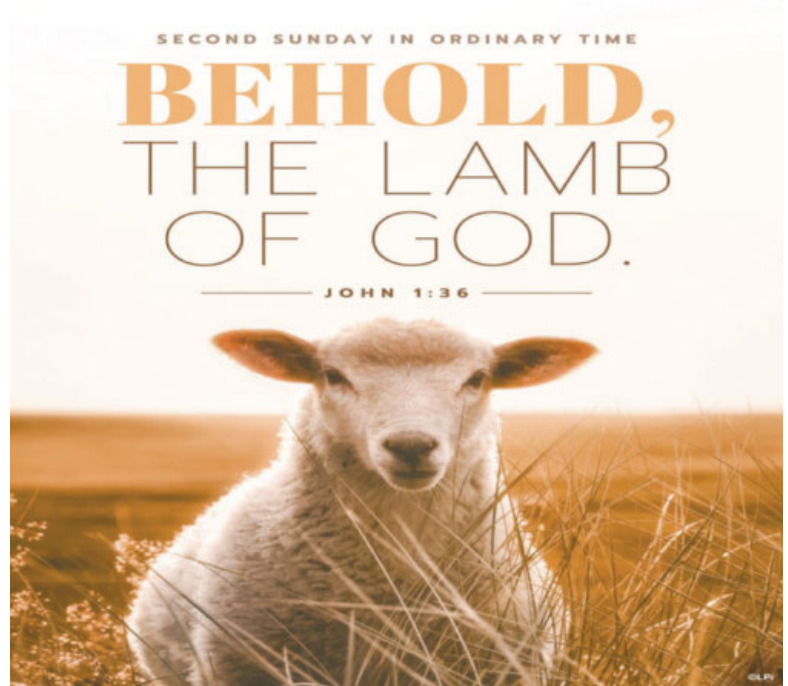
In this exchange, we see nothing to indicate that Peter dropped everything to follow Jesus. We will not see that until they meet again at the Sea of Galilee. Jesus was preparing Simon for the role that he would call him for, but Simon was not ready. When he was ready, Jesus called him, and he responded.

God calls each of us. Perhaps we are not ready to respond when we first hear his voice, and that's okay; neither was Simon Peter, but Peter continued to listen to Jesus, and when it was his time, he responded. Listen to God; when it is your time, be ready to respond and follow him.

#### Ordinary Time

Christmas is over. The trees are coming down, and the Christmas decorations are being put away for another year. In the Church, we return to Ordinary Time, but there is nothing ordinary about Ordinary Time. It is called Ordinary Time because it is "ordered" toward something; it is ordered toward our salvation.

Simon Peter was not ready to drop everything the first time he met Jesus, but he continued to listen to Jesus and to respond to him. Like Peter, we too, must grow in our relationship with Jesus. Throughout Ordinary Time, we will grow in our relationship with God until we can respond like Peter, who said: "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life." (Jn 6:68-71)



### NOTES FROM PAUL

In this week's first reading (1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19) we hear the story of God calling Samuel. This is a story that has always resonated with me, not because I often "slept in the temple of the Lord," but because I knew I was being called to do something, but didn't know who was calling, or what was being asked of me.

This is something that quite a few people said to me last weekend at the Commitment Sunday, so I know I am not alone. If you hear someone calling you, or tugging on your heart, don't be afraid to say "Speak, for your servant is listening."

With Lent just around the corner, don't be afraid to step out of your comfort zone and try something new. It doesn't have to be with our Parish (though I hope it is for some of you) but consider giving up a little of your time (which is very valuable) and test if it is what God is calling you to do.

God bless,  
Paul Zbytowski,  
Pastoral Associate,  
Evangelization and Christian Service Coordinator

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Mon. Jan. 15 12 Noon +Bill & Leona Schneider** Req. by Graziano Canini

**Thurs. Jan. 18 9:00am +Bernie & Patrick Fox** Req. by Family

**Sat. Jan. 20 5:30pm +Robert Malecki** Req. by Family  
**+Del Paputa** Req. by Family  
**+Edward Archambeau** Req. by Maryann Sligay

**Sun Jan. 21 9:00am +Clyde Sr. & Richard Lickman** Req. by Theresa O'Bey

**11:00am +Charlene Knoblock** Req. by Carol Knoblock  
**+Tony Hollis** Req. by Gloria Legas

## PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Nancy Abramson  
 Helen Adams  
 Mel Albright  
 Sean Armstrong  
 Pat Bader  
 Kelly Beaudry  
 Fr. Jerry Bechard  
 Joan Bischoff  
 Al Boglarsky  
 Jerry Borycz  
 Don Brune  
 Angela Bunio  
 Dan Burke  
 Hope Carew  
 Ricky Canini  
 Jannisse Chesney  
 Evan Costello  
 Christina Cowell  
 Bodyn Crince  
 Barbara Deck  
 Ed & Catherine Duff  
 Larry Edick  
 Faith Falzon  
 Ashley Aaron Farkas  
 Janet & Al Fleis  
 Liam Francis  
 Nan Fry  
 Mike Fusco

Betty Gable  
 Alisa Gardner  
 Judy Gardner  
 Julia Gardner  
 Sonia Gee  
 Emily Gnacke  
 William Gnacke, Jr.  
 Patricia Godvin  
 Ora Gomez  
 Viola Janus  
 Jacqueline Hamrick  
 Susan Hancock  
 Eileen Harris  
 Lauren Hahn  
 Becca Hoffman  
 Christine Humphrey  
 Cora Jones  
 John Kaminsky  
 Chris Karpinski  
 Rose Keena  
 Susan Kelly  
 Gloria Keniz  
 Marion Kiras  
 Joan Klein  
 Bob & Dolly Kluba  
 John Kolar  
 John Krokosky  
 Patricia Lickman

Julianne Lister  
 Lillian & Sienna Lombardi  
 Ken Macko  
 Rob Martin  
 Dennis & Kathy McCann  
 John Meconi  
 Joanne Meister  
 Irene Melady  
 Ann Merchant  
 Andrew Merchant  
 Tony Micallef  
 Selena Montez  
 Debbie Moore  
 Ashley Murphy  
 Liam Murphy  
 Connie Osada  
 Teresa M. Pardo  
 Keith Pares  
 Eddie Brian Parker  
 Patrick Patton  
 Geralyn Pawlaczyk  
 Luke Pawlaczyk  
 Jared Perez  
 Faye Pierson  
 Damian Pietszak  
 Deb Pietszak  
 Sandy Popek  
 Annette Puczkowski

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

### Monday, January 15

Mass 12:00pm Noon  
 Eucharistic Adoration 12:30-3pm  
 Faith Formation 6pm  
 Youth Group 6pm

### Tuesday, January 16

Art n Environment 9:30am  
 Holy Name Fraternity 7pm

### Wednesday, January 17

Rosary 7pm

### Thursday, January 18

Mass 9:00am  
 Bible Class 6pm

### Saturday, January 20

Mass 5:30pm  
 Confession 6:30pm

### Sunday, January 21

Mass 9:00am & 11:00am  
 Pancake Breakfast 8:30-12:30pm

**If there are any names that can be removed from our Prayer List, please let us know by calling 734-425-4421.**

## OUR ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS

Capt. Tim Duff, U.S. Army; CPT Joey Saunders, U.S. Marines;  
 Marine Sgt. Leven Smith; U.S. Marines; PVT Marcus Rodriguez, U.S. Army; William Albright, U. S. Air Force

## Parish Mission Statement

The Parish of St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy, inspired by Mary's "Yes" and led by the Holy Spirit, strives to be a faith-filled community, joyfully welcoming all to witness and to celebrate the Gospel.



**BLOOD DRIVE**  
**Wednesday, January 24, 2024**  
**9:00am - 3:00pm**

Appointments are needed. Schedule online or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

Come give Jan 1 thru 31 for chance at trip for 2 to Super Bowl LVIII in Vegas!  
[rcblood.org/SuperBowl](http://rcblood.org/SuperBowl)

**PRAYER FOR PRIESTLY VOCATIONS**

*Heavenly Father, Lord of the Harvest, call forth vocations to the priesthood from our archdiocese and families.  
 Jesus, Eternal High Priest, give us men willing to sacrifice and serve. Make their hearts after your own Sacred Heart.  
 Holy Spirit, Everlasting Love between Father and Son, strengthen, inspire, and set men on fire with divine charity.  
 Grant them the courage to say yes to their vocation.*

*Holy Mary, Mother of God, Mother of priests, comfort and protect your sons as they discern their call. With Saint Joseph, may they know your love and companionship as they deepen their relationship with Jesus.*

*Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us.*

*St. Anne, pray for us.*

*St. John Vianney, patron saint of priests, pray for us.*

**Christ Is Anything but Ordinary**

We're about to dive headlong into week two of Ordinary Time, and we need to admit, after the hustle and bustle of the holidays, things are indeed looking more ... ordinary, at least in our spiritual lives.

The transcendent highs of the Christmas season are flat lining a bit and the vivid imagery of the Nativity scene has faded. The solemn anticipation of the Advent season is by now a distant memory. Are you bored yet? Here's a secret: I think that Ordinary Time can actually be quite extraordinary, if we're really living out our baptismal call.

In today's Gospel, Jesus point-blank asks Andrew, who is following him after hearing John the Baptist's testimony: "What are you looking for?" He's asking us the same question. What are you looking for? Why are you following me? Is it for the Christmas cookies and the Advent carols? Is it for the King's Cake on the Epiphany? Is it for the feeling we get on Christmas when we just know God has done a wondrous thing?

None of those things are bad, but they are not what Andrew was looking for, and they were not what Christ promised him when he said, "Come, and you will see." Andrew was looking for the Messiah — the One who makes even Ordinary Time extraordinary. The One who can sanctify the longest and duller of to-do lists, on the longest and duller of days. The One whose peace can reign in our homes on January 25, not just December 25.

Remember what you are looking for. Come, and you will see.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

**2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



## Consider participating in the CSA

If you have not donated or pledged to this year's CSA, please do so as soon as possible. We have met our goal! But we are still paying off the 2022 CSA goal.

**If you have pledged to this year's CSA, please remember to pay off your pledge.**

The CSA targets the averages of the total of our Sunday and Christmas collections. Any amount that is donated that exceeds our goal is **paid back to the parish assessment free** and is not factored into the calculation of the CSA target for 2024.

You may mail your completed pledge card in the pre-addressed envelope that was provided you, make your gift to our parish campaign online at [givecsa.org](http://givecsa.org) or mail your donation to the parish office. Thank you!



**MAKE CHECKS  
PAYABLE TO:  
ARCHDIOCESE OF  
DETROIT - CSA**

### Option 1: My Pledged Gift Amount

*(Please enclose a check for  
the initial payment amount)*

\_\_\_ \$300.00 \_\_\_ \$200.00 \_\_\_ \$100.00

Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Initial Pledge Payment: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ balance: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Send my statements: \_\_\_ Monthly \_\_\_ Quarterly

### Option 2: My One-Time Gift

*(Please enclose a check  
for the full amount)*

\_\_\_ \$300.00

\_\_\_ \$200.00

\_\_\_ \$100.00

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## CARDS AND NOTES TO FR. SHAFIQUE.....

Cards and notes may be sent to Fr. Shafique. The Archdiocese of Detroit will accept cards and letters and forward them to Fr. Shafique. The Archdiocese will NOT open any letters or cards. They will bundle them and send them directly to Fr. Shafique. Please send cards/letters to:

**Fr. Shafique  
% Clergy & Consecrated Life office  
12 State St.  
Detroit, Michigan 48226**

## FLOCKNOTE

Are you new to the parish? Do you ever feel like you are missing out on "up to the minute" news? Have you missed the news of a funeral that happened during the week but wished you had known sooner? Or a weather related closing for our parish? You can sign up for Flocknote by going to: <https://app.flocknote.com/StMaryCauseofOurJoy> or text "COOJ" to 84576

## 2023 CHURCH DONATION STATEMENTS

If you made a donation to our Parish and would like to receive a statement for your income tax filing, please call the Parish Office to request a statement. 734.425.4421. Thank you for your continued donations to help support our parish.

Catholic Service Appeal (CSA) will send donation letters from the Archdiocese.



## ROSARY

Please join us when we say the Rosary on Wednesday evenings at 7pm and on Thursday mornings at 8:30am. We also say the rosary before Mass on Saturdays.



## Thinking of Becoming Catholic?

The OCIA/RCIA is a program of education intended to instruct in the Catholic Faith to those who are seeking to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church through Baptism and/or Confirmation and Holy Communion.

If you think you might be interested in knowing more about the Catholic Faith, please call the Parish office at 734.425.4421

## HOLY NAME FRATERNITY

HNF monthly meeting will be Tuesday, 1/16/24, at 7pm in the small hall.

Come enjoy the HNF, January pancake breakfast, Sunday, 1/21/24, 830am to 1230pm in the social hall. Cost: \$3. All are welcome.

## St. Michael the Archangel Catholic School

KINDERGARTEN & YOUNG 5'S  
OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, January 28

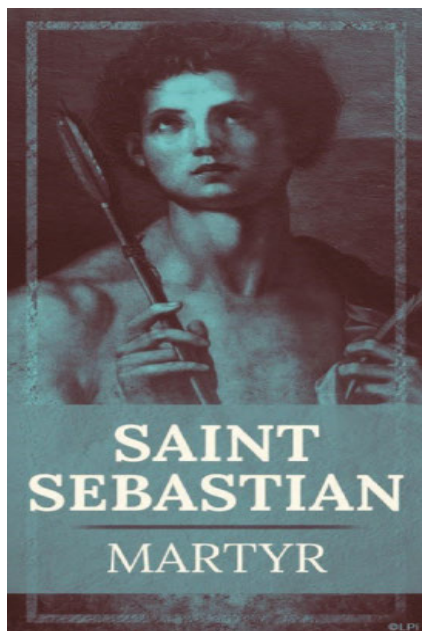
[Livoniastmichael.org/visitSMA](http://Livoniastmichael.org/visitSMA)

2024 PROSPECTIVE  
FAMILIES OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, January 28, 2024

[Livoniastmichael.org/visitSMA](http://Livoniastmichael.org/visitSMA)





### St. Sebastian | January 20

Not much is known about the life of St. Sebastian (256 – 287), except that he was a Roman martyr whose name has been mentioned throughout history since early 350.

We see St. Sebastian many times in art, especially from iconic paintings from Guido Reni, Andrea Mantegna and Hendrick ter Brugghen. Historical scholars now agree that a spiritual story has the beloved saint entering the Roman army because only there could he assist Christian martyrs without arousing suspicion on himself. Eventually he was found out, brought before Emperor Diocletian and delivered to Mauritanian archers to be shot to death. Pierced with arrows, he was left for dead, but managed to survive. He recovered from his wounds but still refused to leave.

One day, St. Sebastian took up a position near where the emperor was to pass. He confronted the emperor, condemning him for his cruelty to Christians. This time the sentence of death was carried out, and St. Sebastian was beaten to death with clubs. Today he is the patron saint of athletes.

©LPi

### HEATING AND COOLING FUNDRAISER

Thank you to all who donated to our HVAC fund or bought a ticket for the raffle. With donations and raffle receipts we now have **\$19,865** as a beginning for the new heating and cooling system. Thank you all.

We are still taking donations. Thank you.

### End Of Year Report

Our Christmas collection this year was \$20,980.

CSA total as of 1/8/2024 was \$76,553.

10 Baptisms

1 Marriage

6 First Eucharists, 6 Confirmations

45 Deaths

### HEALTH MINISTRY

The Mary Browe Senior Center in Westland offers a variety of classes and activities that promote Senior Wellness. If you made a New Year's Resolution to Better Health in 2024, they may be able to help.

For more information, see the flyers in the Gathering space, call the Center at 734-419-2020 or check them out online at <https://www.wwcsd.net/resources/community/mary-browe-senior-center/>

### Forever Young Seniors...

Our next meeting will be Monday, February 5th, 2024 at 10:00am in the Small Hall. We will be playing Presidential Bingo in honor of President's Day. Lunch will be provided by Chef Ann Pape.

#### Bianco bus trips:

Thurs, Feb 8th, 2024

Firekeepers Casino

\$48 due by Jan 18th

Wed, March 13th, 2024

Solanus Casey Pilgrimage \$79

**\*\*Sold Out\*\*** call for Wait List

Sun, April 28, 2024

Meadowbrook Theatre "Route 66"

\$127 due by March 25th

**Note:** the bus trips are open to everyone. See flyers in the Gathering Space for more info.

Maryann Sligay --

734-525-3737



The next Forgiven Harvest pantry is on **Tuesday, January 23 from 9:00am - 11:00am**. The Michigan Humane Society will have dog and cat food available at this pantry.

New volunteers are welcome to join us. If you know anyone who could benefit from this pantry, please let him or her know.

### FREE POINSETTIAS

Poinsettia plants will be available in the Gathering Space after Wednesday, January 17th. They are free for the taking while they last.



### ESTATE PLANNING

Thank you for your past and future support of our Parish Community. Please remember our parish in your Estate Planning.



## St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy

8200 N. Wayne Road,  
Westland, Michigan 48185  
Phone: **734-425-4421**  
Email: [office@stmarycooj.org](mailto:office@stmarycooj.org)  
Fax: 734-425-0650

Website: [www.stmarycooj.org](http://www.stmarycooj.org)

St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy



### Office Hours:

Monday and Wednesday: 9am-4pm

Tuesday and Thursday: 9am-2pm

Friday: Closed

Please call the office  
to make other arrangements

### Mass Schedule

MON	12:00 pm
THURS	9:00am
SAT	5:30pm
SUN	9:00 am 11:00 am

### Confession

Saturdays: 6:30pm

### Baptisms

Please call our Parish Office during regular business hours. Parish membership and preparation class required.

### Marriage

Arrangements must be made by registered parishioner at least six months in advance to allow sufficient time for instructions and preparation.

### Anointing of Sick and Ministry to Homebound

Our pastor is available to visit upon request.

### RCIA

(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

For those interested in becoming a full member of the Catholic Church. Please call the office.

Hearing Devices are available. Please see our music director in the choir area.

Bulletin Articles due by 4pm on Friday (9 days prior to publication). Submitted bulletin content is subject to approval.

## DIRECTORY

### MODERATOR

Fr. Sean Bonner, Priest in Solidum  
[pastor@stmarycooj.org](mailto:pastor@stmarycooj.org) Ext. 213  
Fr. Larry, Priest in Solidum

**FAITH FORMATION** (pre-K to year 8)  
Sabrina Queen Ext. 217  
[Squeen333@gmail.com](mailto:Squeen333@gmail.com)

### MUSIC AND WORSHIP

Aidan C. Rickel  
[music@stmarycooj.org](mailto:music@stmarycooj.org) Ext. 218

### PASTORAL ASSOCIATE/ CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Paul Zbytowski  
[paul@stmarycooj.org](mailto:paul@stmarycooj.org) Ext. 221

### YOUTH MINISTRY

Carol Nelius Ext. 215  
[youthministry@stmarycooj.org](mailto:youthministry@stmarycooj.org)

### PARISH OFFICE MANAGER

Peggy Fox Ext. 210  
[peggy@stmarycooj.org](mailto:peggy@stmarycooj.org)

### PARISH ACCOUNTANT

Maria Riviera Ext. 214  
[bookkeeper@stmarycooj.org](mailto:bookkeeper@stmarycooj.org)

### MAINTENANCE

Sangeeta Safid Ext. 220  
[maintenance@stmarycooj.org](mailto:maintenance@stmarycooj.org)

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Jeff Burden Grand Knight  
[GK15204@mikofc.org](mailto:GK15204@mikofc.org)

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

[svdp@stmarycooj.org](mailto:svdp@stmarycooj.org) Ext. 219

### IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY MINISTRY

Gina Solon 734-865-0999

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

### Arthur Regner

-Chairperson/Worship Rep.

### Julie Callahan

-Vice-Chairperson/Stewardship Rep.

### Barbara Burke

-Secretary/Evangelization

### Deborah Franczak -Member at Large

### Michael Gluth -Member at Large

### Gina Solon -Member at Large

### William "Steve" Noonan

-Member at Large

### Tess Porcalla - Member at Large

### Larry Janowski -Member at Large

### Bethany Garfinkel

-Christian Service Rep.

### Cheri Filipiak

-Education Committee Rep.

### Richard Asher -Alternate

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL QUESTIONS: [PPC@stmarycooj.org](mailto:PPC@stmarycooj.org)

**Report Sexual Abuse for any child or adult:** Call AOD victim assistance 1-866-343-8055 or Call the Michigan Department of Human Services at: 855-444-3911 any time.

## NANKIN FAMILY OF PARISHES MASS TIMES

### St. Thomas the Apostle, 31530 Beechwood, Garden City, 48135

Tuesday	9:00am
Wednesday	12:00 Noon
Friday	9:00am
Saturday	4:00 pm in Church (and live-streamed)
Sunday	9:00 am and 11:00 am in Church

### St. Mary in Wayne, 34530 W Michigan, Wayne 48184

Monday	9:00am
Friday	9:00am (English)
Saturday	4:00pm (English)
Sunday	8:30am (English), 11:30am (English) 2:00pm (Spanish)

### St. Richard, 35851 Cherry Hill, Westland, 48186

Tuesday	9:00am
Sunday	10:00am

To know more about our Family please check out our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/NankinFamilyofParishes>.

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SCAN to RSVP

Friday  
January 19<sup>th</sup>  
at 11:30am

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