

Thoughts from Fr. Scott

Today, Sunday, we graduate our high school seniors: The Laker Class of 2020. Congratulations to all of you. This is a very strange ending to their senior year. We would have been planning and celebrating a Mass and ceremony with the community but it was not possible this year. Still, I am very proud of our graduating class. They are a wonderful group of young people with high ambitions and a wonderful sense of responsibility. I enjoy their enthusiasm and willingness to serve others. As any young Christian person should be they are faithful, polite, and joyful. They live out the mission to be joyful missionary disciples and I am hopeful they will continue to grow in this way throughout their lives. Hopefully, they will draw close to Our Lady and never fail to seek her protection. My dear graduates please know you always have a home here and will be joyfully received should you ever need a supportive word. Congratulations to our graduates and may God guide and bless you all the days of your lives.

Our graduates represent us well in so many ways and are already greatly accomplished. They are certainly a group with their own personality. It is exciting to see them grow in their love for God. I am proud of our 2020 graduates. They are a very good group and it is an honor to be their Pastor. This tribute commends not just our students but their families as well. Our Laker families produce excellent, charitable, and respectful young adults. So, my dear Laker graduates of 2020 thank you for being part of our community and know of our prayers for you always.

It seems like only yesterday we were beginning the school year. Now another

school year is nearing completion and we are grateful. Please pray for our entire school and the health of our school community. It is vitally important for us to ask for God's help and direction in our lives. Pray the Lord bless our academic and spiritual ministries in our school and our religious formation program. Without children, our future would be bleak. Without the direction, vision, and dedication of our tremendous educators and administrators, our children would have a hollow future. Let us then work and pray for a faithful, holy, and educated group of young people in our Church.

Next Sunday, May 24th, we will celebrate the feast of the Ascension of the Lord. In years past, many have referred to the feast as "Ascension Thursday." Of course, it was appropriately named because the feast was always celebrated on a Thursday, forty days after Easter. Years ago, the National Conference of Bishops for the United States petitioned Rome and asked that the celebration of this feast be moved to the Sunday before Pentecost. The request was granted and the feast has been transferred to the seventh Sunday of Easter. It occurs this way in many countries and different Dioceses throughout the United States. Therefore, please note: next Thursday is not a day of obligation and our celebration of the Ascension will be held on Sunday in accordance with Church law.

God Bless and have a great week!
Fr. Scott

Thought for the week: Unconditional love is more than mere acceptance; it is strength, hope, and our best example of Truth.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

JEAN'S JOTTINGS

This past week the registration forms went out electronically to all our current Faith Formation families so that we can begin to look forward to and plan for next year's Formation classes. Please keep an eye on the parish website for the registration to go live by the end of the month for all those entering for the first time. None of us knows what exactly our process will look like for sure so we are going ahead per usual and will make any adjustments if necessary as we go forward. With or without a crystal ball I am very certain that our class sizes will be smaller to accommodate safe distancing protocol which means one very important thing...we will need more catechists to help guide and journey with our students. If you are interested, please email me at jean.hartman@ollonline.org and we can begin our conversation toward placing you in a classroom.

In these last months of such uncertainty, it has become so clear to me that I can count on the truth of my faith. I may not have any idea how to answer the questions I get weekly regarding the celebration of sacraments or how next year's faith formation will look but I can answer with complete and utter confidence that the Lord, my God, is with me and He does and will continue to give me all that I need to serve Him and His people. If you know me, you know that I am a detailed planner and I have events ready to go far in advance to keep myself calm and ready. Armed with that knowledge one could guess how I am doing as I look toward the future. I know me and I know that once upon a time, this would be throwing me completely for a loop and I would be physically ill over this inability to plan and have answers. I knew that I had to do something in order to prevent that from happening to me so I did something (I actually do it several times a day) that has changed who I am.

I won't say it's always been easy but I will say that I have found remarkable results from this new mantra of mine. What I have been doing has given me such peace and joy like I have felt only one other time in my life. I pray that this time, I have made this a new habit. Are you curious? What have I done that has given me a new outlook? Let me tell you – I have prayed and prayed and prayed! I have and am giving this all to God. I tell Him, when I feel anxious or when I feel I need answers NOW, that I cannot do this and that He must do this for me. I tell Him that this is too much for me and that He must carry it all for me. Then I thank Him for lifting me out of my doubt and from all of this uncertainty. I thank Him for giving me all the direction I will need to move into whatever comes next in my ministry to His people. I sit peacefully in the truth and confidence in today's Gospel. He is with me always and He will reveal what He wants and needs me to do in my ministry and daily life. It is so freeing! I can now say boldly that I have no idea what lies ahead and how things will look in my ministry and in my life and I'm okay

with that because His advocate will lead me (us) where we need to be when it is time. Will the days ahead be more "messy" than what I am used to? I think yes. Will I make mistakes? I say yes. Will I be able to learn and find my joy in it all? YES! Yes as long as I continually pray and let Him lead me and carry me.

Let the journey continue! Lord, I thank You in advance for remaining within me, beside me, before me, now and forever. Stay safe and centered in Christ my OLL family.

Peace and prayers,
Jean Hartman, DRE

UNLEASH THE GOSPEL

UnleashTheGospel.org now has so much more to help you go out and live with apostolic boldness. Visit us for articles, videos, resources and tools to grow as a missionary disciple.



FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION *for households with children*

May 27, June 10, June 24 from 12:30-3:30pm

Morse Elementary, 475 Cherry St., Troy

Households with children who are in need of food are encouraged to attend upcoming drive-thru food distribution sponsored by Gleaners Community Food Bank.

Please stay in your vehicle to limit exposure. Please arrive with an empty trunk so a volunteer can place groceries there.

Guests without vehicles are welcome to walk up, while maintaining six feet of social distancing, and should be prepared to carry 20-30 pounds or have a cart.



RIGHT TO LIFE-LIFESPAN

NEW LIFE

Many will consider the days in which we are living to be rather dark. It is hard to be separated from our usual activities and our friends and families. But, take a moment and look outside at the trees. Do you see all those buds?!?! New life is being brought forth even as we struggle. Soon we will all be able to share in the abundance of this new life and give thanks.

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY, MAY 18, 2020

Saint John I

ACTS 16:11-15 JN 15:26-16:4a

†Nancy Kerton requested by the Funeral Luncheon Team

Int. Lou & Mary Zednik on their 40th Anniversary

TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2020

ACTS 16:22-34 JN 16:5-11

†Jacob Jarman requested by the Fluegel Family

**Int. Fr. Christopher Muer
on the Anniversary of his Ordination**

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2020

St. Bernardine of Siena

ACTS 17:15, 22-18:1 JN 16:12-15

†Lynde Polasek requested by Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Hall

Prayer Warriors requested by Roberta Blust

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2020

St. Christopher Magallanes

ACTS 18:1-8 JN 16:16-20

Int. Mary Groves on her Birthday
requested by Grandma & Papa

Living & Deceased Members of the Suzanne Navarre Family

FRIDAY, MAY 22, 2020

St. Rita of Cascia

ACTS 18:9-18 JN 16:20-23

Int. Fr. Brian on the Anniversary of his Ordination
requested by the Zednik Family

†Raymond Smiecinski requested by B. Tomko

SATURDAY, MAY 23, 2020

ACTS 18:23-28 JN 16:23b-28

†Jerry & Jim Moore requested by Sue Moore

Int. Bernie Tomko
requested by Barb Radziewicz and Barb Renkiewicz

SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2020

Ascension of the Lord

ACTS 1:1-11 EPH 1:17-23 MT 28:16-20

†Deceased Members of the Arabucki Family

Int. Margaret Torola requested by her Family

†Maria Mauro requested by her Family

Int. Fr. Brian Meldrum on the Anniversary of his Ordination
requested by the Fluegel Family

†Grace Seeterlin Moore

Parish Family of Our Lady of the Lakes

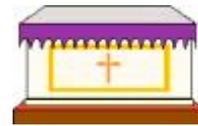
Int. Phyllis McCaffrey requested by Barb Plants

†Emily Zubalik requested by Anne Zubalik

Be assured that every intention is being prayed for by Fr. Scott and Fr. Christopher as they celebrate their private daily Mass.

LIVE STREAM SCHEDULE

The following are times for the Live Stream of Masses on Facebook. To watch live, go to **Facebook.com/OLLwaterford**. After the Live Stream has finished they will be posted on our website **OLLonline.org**.



SATURDAY, MAY 23

5:00pm

SUNDAY, MAY 24

10:00am

Live Stream Masses will take place as long as necessary.

PARISH RESOURCES

Visit **www.OLLonline.org** and select option **Parish**, to hear or view Our Lady of the Lakes liturgical services such as:

- Saturday and Sunday Masses
- Homilies
- Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotion

Weekend Masses are Live-Streamed on our Facebook page:

Facebook.com/OLLwaterford

Weekly bulletins can be found at:

www.ollonline.org/parish/bulletin

Our Parish App: Text "app" to 88202

DiscoverMass.com

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, Come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you as if you were already there And unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

STEWARDSHIP

IRA ROLLOVER

What you need to know about the IRA charitable gift rollover

Congress has extended and the president has signed the favorable IRA charitable rollover tax provisions for 2015 and made them permanent for future years.

What should a donor over age 70½ do in order to get the benefit that IRA distributions will not be included in taxable income? Donors should follow the same general procedures for IRA charitable distributions as in the past —

- Only **direct distributions to charity** up to \$100,000 qualify as tax-free. Distributions in exchange for a charitable gift annuity or to a charitable remainder trust do not qualify.
- It is especially important that the IRA distribution be made payable to the charity, not to you as the IRA owner and beneficiary. Otherwise, the distribution would not qualify for the favorable tax treatment. **Advise your IRA administrator to make the distribution check payable to the Church or other charity, not to you.**
- Only distributions from traditional or certain Roth IRAs are tax-free; the law does not apply to other qualified retirement plans, such as 401(k) plans. However, you should consider consulting with your financial or tax advisor about the possibility of transferring funds from one of these other qualified plans to establish an IRA, with the distribution to charity coming from the newly established IRA.
- Consult with your IRA administrator and tax advisor on the proper procedures for making a direct distribution to your parish, the Archdiocese of Detroit Endowment Foundation, the Catholic Services Appeal, Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan, or another archdiocesan institution or qualified charity.

WAYS TO SUPPORT YOUR PARISH

Your contributions are used for the day-to-day operations of the parish including payroll, maintenance and cleaning of buildings, as well as utilities. We thank you for your continued giving during this difficult time.

3 Ways to Give Electronically

Option 1: If your bank offers free Bill Pay we recommend that you use that option. Log into your bank and follow instructions to set up auto bill pay. You will need the following information: Our Lady of the Lakes, 5481 Dixie Hwy., Waterford, MI 48329.

or

Option 2: Visit give.aod.org. Choose **Make a Gift to Your Parish** You will be asked to create a profile for your login. Under Gift Information choose **Parish online offertory**, the amount of your gift, and choose **Our Lady of the Lakes**.

or

Option 3: Visit <https://woll.weshareonline.org> and follow the instructions to set up a profile and begin electronically giving.

Mail

Mail your contribution to Our Lady of the Lakes, 5481 Dixie Hwy., Waterford, MI 48329.

Mobile Giving

You can drop off your contribution to the Parish Center. There is a mailbox outside the front door and you can drop your offering off there.

Curbside Service

Call ahead or from your vehicle (248-623-0274) and a staff member will meet you at your car.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

In his First Letter, St. Peter proclaims to the faithful: *Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope, but do it with gentleness and reverence.* In St. John's Gospel, Jesus professes to His followers that *He will ask the Father, Who will give them an Advocate to strengthen their faith — a Spirit of Truth, Whom the world cannot accept.* The Scripture passage from the Acts of the Apostles demonstrates the

power of the Holy Spirit released to believers in Christ. The Holy Spirit moves faith-filled stewards to profess Truth in support of Catholic teaching against all attacks on life, marriage, and other moral issues embraced by today's secular society. Learn more about these Truths through Michigan Right to Life at www.rtl.org, the Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN) at www.ewtn.com, and the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

OUR PARISH LIFE TOGETHER



PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Please keep in your thoughts and prayers this week the sick members of our Parish:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Baby Celie | Ben Darmofal | Irene Pawlowski |
| Rob Amos | Irene Delasko | Mark Pidgeon |
| Beverly Armstrong | Joyce Delasko | Tania Price |
| Joe Batwinas | Norma Erdman | Scott Przybylowicz |
| Christian Bodenmiller | Adam Figurski | Carol Raymond |
| Mikela Bodenmiller | Patty Fincannon | Roxy Ryan |
| William Bodenmiller | Jennifer Gaffey | Dennis Ritter |
| Bill Boeneman | Gary Garza | Holly Sanders |
| John Boncella | Katie Geary | Roger Smith |
| Margo Brown | Bill Grace | Tress Ann Smith |
| Chuck Campbell | Suzanne Grimminger | Joe Sutherland |
| Janet Cobert | Linda Hemphill | Kenneth Turner |
| Dean Coleman | Jeff Hotchkiss | Theresa Villereal |
| Cheryl Coulter | Patrick Hull | Ralph Vogan |
| Sarah Coulter | Tim Nepjuk | Lucy Wilhelm |
| Brady Cullen | Frank Pardington | Pat Zurbriggen |
| Kevin Dalley | Carol Pawlowski | |

May they find peace, strength, and comfort in God's care.

Our Lady of the Lakes

PRAYER REQUEST LINE

248-623-0274

ollprayerteam@OLLonline.org

Touch "Prayers" in our Parish App

CHURCH HOURS

Hours the church will be open for private prayer:

Monday - Thursday: 7:00am-8:00pm

Friday: 7:00am-5:00pm

Saturday: 7:00am-6:30pm

Sunday: 7:00am-5:00pm



Kendziorski



Kubani

REST IN PEACE

Remember those who have gone before us

William Kendziorski

Sally Kubani

"Happy are those who have died in the Lord; Let them rest from their labors For their good deeds go with them."

Our thoughts and prayers are with their families. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



In remembrance

Judy Duke

July 5, 1945 - May 6, 2020

Judy Duke obtained her Master's degree in education from Wayne State University and went on to teach at multiple schools in the Metro Detroit area for nearly 30 years. Many will remember her as a demanding math teacher and she was the moderator of NHS for many years at Our Lady of the Lakes, leaving in the fall of 2007.

FOLLOW US!



OUR LADY OF THE LAKES, WATERFORD, MICHIGAN



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