

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday, January 26, 2025



SAINTS CYRIL AND
METHODIUS PARISH

FARNOSTĚ SVĚTÝCH
CYRILA A METODA



A Personal Parish Established To Serve The Slovak Catholic Community In The Archdiocese Of Detroit



3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me...
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free.
- Lk 4:18*

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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MASS *Intentions*

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January 25, Saturday - Sobota

Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle

- 9:00AM For Liv. & Dec. Members of the Buckley Families
❖ For Mike Drozdowski (B'Day)
❖ For Patrick & Sophia Hines
❖ For Mina Sarraf (B'Day)
- 5:30PM For the Intentions of All Parishioners

January 26, Sunday - Nedela

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

- Is 62:1-5, 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11
- 7:30AM For the Poor Souls in Purgatory req. RMG
❖ For Carl & Alyssia Varchetti & Family
❖ For Anthony Schuller & Family
❖ For John & Bridget Hines
❖ For Bert & Jan Moore
❖ † Daniel J Ballew req. Mike MacDonald
❖ † Ronald B. Neal req. Mike MacDonald
- 9:30AM In Thanksgiving
❖ For Deacon Gerald Smigell (B'Day)
❖ For Sylvester Wilkins
❖ For Natalie & Alan Giroux & Family
❖ For Tim & Victoria Roddy & Family
❖ † Maristella D'Alio & Family
❖ † Rafael Drensek (B'Day) req. Drensek Family
- 11:30AM *(Slovak)*
For Fr. Juraj & Fr. Libor req. Friend
❖ For Fr. John Simoneau req. Friend
❖ † Magdaléna Bojova req. Family
❖ † Cindy Zitny req. Friend
- 8:30PM For Karam Kalla
❖ For Ghanim & Najiba Kalla
❖ For Diane req. Friend
❖ † Dennis Kerry
❖ † James Thibodeau req. Lucy Cousens
❖ † Leon Skuratowicz req. Family
❖ † Lisa Yanik

January 27, Monday - Pondelok

Memorial of Saint Angela Merici, Virgin

- 9:00AM For Shawn Lechner
❖ For Therese Stout req. Karen Rockholt
❖ For Mae & Selena Bauto
❖ For Patricia Vitale req. Maria Vitale
- 12:00PM For Nate & Theresa Robinson & Family
❖ For Christian, Jacqueline & Emmanuel
❖ For Kristina & Daniel & Family
❖ For Lourdes Shamoon req. Family

January 28, Tuesday - Utorok

Memorial of Saint Thomas, Priest and Doctor of the Church

- 6:00AM For Glen and Amy Varchetti & Family
❖ † Agatha Mangano (B'Day)
❖ † Jeanette Simonson
- 12:00PM For the Mansour Family
❖ For Casey & Annie Cain
❖ For Eli Ave, Lily & Theresa
❖ † Alberto Pertusi (Ann.) req. Family

January 29, Wednesday - Streda

- 9:00AM *(Latin)* For Mark Varchetti
❖ For Don & Janine Burzinski req Family
❖ † Robert Stobb req. Deborah Cousens
❖ † Marie & +Jim Wiltse
- 12:00PM For Louise Hand req. Deacon Phil
❖ For Michael Fuller req. Family
❖ † Nora Cayetano (Ann.) req. Family
❖ † Ronald Doolan
- ## January 30, Thursday - Štvrtok
- 6:00AM For Jane Hines (B'Day)
- 12:00PM For Charley & Anna Debczak
❖ For the Mansour Family
❖ For the Deceased Members of Zervella Family
❖ † Leoncio Tena (Ann.) req. Family
- 7:00PM For Paul Varchetti & Family
❖ For Mercy Vitale
❖ For Noah Dzieciolowski (4th B'Day) req. Family
❖ † Sabriya, Hanna & Iman Boutany

January 31, Friday - Piatok

Memorial of Saint John Bosco, Priest

- 6:00AM For Catherine Hanna (B'Day)
❖ For Thomas Simonson
❖ † Diane Sadowski
- 12:00PM For Nellie & Family
❖ For Tim Schuster (B'Day) req. Family
❖ For Akhlas Gappy & Family
❖ For the Mansour Family

February 1, First Saturday - Prvá Sobota

- 9:00AM For a Special Intention
❖ For the Intentions of the Rosary Society
❖ For Roman req. Grandma & Papa
❖ For Sandra Nikprelaj (B'Day)
- 5:30PM For the Poor Souls in Purgatory req. RMG
❖ For Terezja & Teri Drensek req. Deacon Phil
❖ For Stanley Lukowski (80th B'Day) req. Maria
❖ For Andrea Davis req. Friend
❖ For RoseAnn Lebioda req. Friend
❖ † Mary Wais req. Mike MacDonald
❖ † Filippo Marrocco req. Family

February 2, Sunday - Nedela

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

- Mal 3:1-4; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40
- 7:30AM For the Intentions of All Parishioners
- 9:30AM For the Liv. & Dec. Members of the Drozdowski Family
❖ For Maryn Hines (B'Day)
❖ For Christopher Hines (B'Day)
❖ † Maristella D'Alio & Family
❖ † Rafael Drensek req. Drensek Family
❖ † Frank & Mary Cobler req. Granddaughter Karen
❖ † Marie Robinson req. Family
- 11:30AM *(Slovak)* For Fr. Ben Kosnac
❖ For Paul & Carroll Schuller & Family req. Friend
❖ † Peter Noga req. Slovak Community
- 8:30PM For Monir & Alia Korkis & Family
❖ † Ronald B. Neal req. Mike MacDonald

Welcome

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time • Sunday, January 26, 2025

Fr. Libor Marek, Priest in Solidum • lmarek@saintcyrils.church
Fr. Juraj Nuota, Priest in Solidum • jnuota@saintcyrils.church
Deacon Phil McCown • pmccown@saintcyrils.church
Deacon Gerald Smigell • vgsmigell6@gmail.com
Parish Office • parishoffice@saintcyrils.church

Ss. CYRIL & METHDIUS HOLY MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAYS: 9:00AM & 5:30PM (Vigil) / SUNDAYS: 7:30AM, 9:30AM, 11:30AM (in Slovak) & 8:30PM
MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS: 9:00AM & 12:00PM
TUESDAYS & FRIDAYS: 6:00AM & 12:00PM
THURSDAYS & FIRST FRIDAYS: 6:00AM, 12:00PM & 7:00PM

Ss. CYRIL & METHDIUS CONFESSION SCHEDULE:

MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS: 8:30AM - 9:00AM & 11:30AM - 12:00PM
TUESDAYS & FRIDAYS: 5:30AM-6:00AM & 11:30AM-12:00PM
THURSDAYS & FIRST FRIDAYS: 5:30AM - 6:00AM, 11:30AM - 12:00PM & 6:30PM-7:00PM
SATURDAYS: 8:30AM - 9:00AM

OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAYS: 10:00AM - 5:00PM
TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS: 11:00AM - 5:00PM
WEDNESDAYS: 10:00AM - 2:00PM
***Office is closed during 12:00PM Holy Mass**

OVERNIGHT EUCHARISTIC ADORATION:

THURSDAYS, 1:00PM - FRIDAYS, 12:00PM (until 7:00PM on First Fridays)



Sunday, February 2
Feast of the Presentation of the Lord
(Candlemas Day) & Blessing of Candles

Ancient sources talk about The 40th Day of the Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Since January 6 was originally celebrated as the day of Christ's birth, the 40th day fell on February 14. Once the celebration of Christ's birth moved to December 25, the 40th Day fell on February 2. Eventually it received the name Feast of the Encounter (Greek: hypapante), or Feast of Purification (Roman liturgy kept the name Purification of Mary until the last liturgical reform).

The event celebrated on February 2 is captured in Luke 2:22-29. Following the prescriptions of the Old Testament, a mother is to visit the temple 40 days after the birth of a boy and to bring a sacrifice for purification. In addition, the first-born boy belongs to the Lord. He must be presented in front of the Lord and redeemed. Jesus' parents, upon visiting the Temple, encountered the prophetess Anna and the old Simeon. Both of them recognized Jesus as the Savior of Israel and thus give praise to God.

This feast was celebrated as early as the 4th century in Jerusalem with a light procession. It is also attested in Rome in the 5th century and eventually it spread to Gallia (8th century).

Catholic liturgy can implement a procession with candles from a chapel, or blessing of candles in the church. Liturgical texts talk about Christ who comes into his Temple. The traditional light procession led also to the name Candlemas.

Traditionally, people would take these blessed candles home and light them in moments of need (storms, epidemics, hour of death...).

Everyone is encouraged to bring candles to be blessed at the following Masses:

Saturday, February 1, 5:30PM

Sunday, February 2, 7:30AM, 9:30AM, 11:30AM, 8:30PM

Please make sure to bring your own candles as candles will not be available at the church. The candles you bring to church will be blessed and may be taken home to light in times of need.

Monday, February 3
Memorial of Saint Blaise
Blessing of the Throats



Saint Blaise, bishop & martyr of Sebaste in Armenia, is believed to have been martyred during the persecution of Licinius around 316AD. According to various accounts he was a physician before becoming a bishop and is also venerated by the Eastern Church.

St. Blaise is associated with the healing of the throats because of an event that took place when a mother came to him with her young son who had a fish bone caught in his throat. At Blaise's command, the child was able to cough up the bone.

For the blessing of the throats, candles are blessed first. The priest either holds the crossed candles in front of each person's throat or gives the blessing to all people at once by extending his hands without crossed candles, while saying the following prayer of blessing: *"Through the intercession of Saint Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."*

Suffering and illness have always been among the greatest problems that trouble the human spirit. Christians feel and experience pain as do all other people; yet their faith helps them to grasp more deeply the mystery of suffering and to bear their pain with greater courage!

The Blessing of Throats will take place on:
Monday, February 3, at the following Holy Masses:
9:00AM and 12:00PM



Catechism Corner

Catechism Corner

We will once again be having our Safe Environment Program on Wednesday, January 29, to teach our young students how to seek help from a trusted adult. This year's topics are Boundaries and Secrets/Surprises/Promises. We must trust God's Grace and the funny feeling in the stomach the Holy Spirit gives us when something just isn't right; that message from Him telling us to run to a trusted adult for help.

If you decide that your wish is for your child not to attend, please fill out the 'Opt Out Form' that was sent home January 15 or contact your child's teacher to receive another copy. So, it is not confusing, if you choose for your child to attend, you do nothing but bring them to class. The students whose parents are opting out will go to another classroom during the lesson and return when it is over. All student please report to their normal classrooms that evening. Of course, if you have any questions, you are free to contact Paul or Carroll Schuller.

Class Schedule

Wednesday, January 29, 6:15PM: Class

Wednesday, February 5, 6:15PM: Class

Wednesday, February 12, 6:15PM: Class

If you have any questions about Catechism, please contact:

Paul or Carroll Schuller at (586) 685-1069 or cschuller@saintcyrils.church



N.O.W. Teen Ministry • Monday, January 27

TOPIC: "Friendship"

TIME: 7:00PM - 8:45PM

LOCATION: Fr. Mikus Hall

N.O.W.-Navigating our World with Christ-offers high schoolers a variety of ways to deepen their relationship with God through weekly youth group meetings called "N.O.W. Nights." They include:

- ◆ Teaching & Testimony
- ◆ Spiritual Formation
- ◆ Games & Social Time
 - ◆ Snacks
 - ◆ Prayer Time

We ask that teens have turned 14 years old before December 1 of last year and be at least a freshmen to attend.

The next N.O.W. night takes place this Monday, January 27, from 7:00PM - 8:45PM, in the Fr. Mikus Hall. The topic is "Friendship". Friendship is one of the most valuable gifts we receive in life, but it requires a constant investment to keep it up and improve.

Questions about N.O.W. Teen Ministry:

Heidi Normile, (586) 859-0194



EDGE Middle School Youth Ministry • Thursday, January 30

TOPIC: "Word of God"

TIME: 7:00PM - 8:45PM

LOCATION: Fr. Mikus Hall

EDGE offers 6th, 7th, and 8th graders a variety of ways to deepen their relationship with God through weekly youth group meetings called "EDGE Nights." They include:

- ◆ Teaching and Testimony
 - ◆ Prayer Time
- ◆ Games & Social Time
 - ◆ Snacks and Fun!

The next EDGE Night takes place this Thursday, January 30, from 7:00PM - 8:45PM, in the Fr. Mikus Hall.

The topic is "Word of God". How to summit your way through the Bible. The Bible is a message of love from God to people, His personal letter to us. God's way of writing helps us to understand.

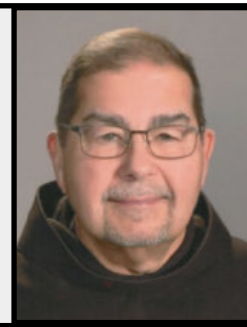
Questions about EDGE Middle School Ministry:

Heidi Normile, (586) 859-0194

Thank You Fr. Michael Lenz, OFM

Thank you, Fr. Michael, for being a dedicated priest, counselor and friend to us for the last ten years! May you be blessed abundantly as you enter semi-retirement at St. Anthony Friary in Cincinnati, OH.

Please join Fr. Michael in the Fr. Mikus Hall after the Sunday, January 26, 9:30AM Holy Mass for a Farewell Fellowship.



Discernment Weekend • January 30–February 2

Discernment Weekends are a unique experience for men feeling a call to the priesthood. Spending four days living at the seminary provides you with a first-hand opportunity to see what it's like from the inside and to discern with like-minded men.

Attending a Discernment Weekend is perfect for any man from the Archdiocese of Detroit (18 – 55 years old) who is discerning a vocation to the priesthood. These weekends provide you with more tools for proper discernment.

A large part of the Discernment Weekend focuses on the Aspects of Seminary Life and the Pillars of Formation (Spiritual, Human, Intellectual, and Pastoral). These four presentations are the foundation of the seminary formation program.

For more information, please contact us. Those interested must have a meeting with *Fr. Craig Giera*, Director of Priestly Vocations, before you are allowed to register.

Archdiocese of Detroit Office of Priestly Vocations,
(313) 237-5812



Feast of St. John Bosco Patron Saint of Youth Special Hour of Adoration Friday, January 31

Parishioners are welcome to attend a special hour of Adoration to pray for our youth on Friday, January 31, from 7:00PM-8:00PM. Tea and cookies for teens afterward.

Northland Family Prayer News • Saturday, February 1

As we anticipated the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*, we knew that alone would not solve the abortion issue. Much work and healing are still needed, and we see that life and family issues are still being challenged today. This bulletin article runs just as the March for Life and the West Coast March take place. May all the participants have a safe and meaningful experience! We encourage everyone to stand up for life and hope that you can join us for the following Pro-life prayer events:

We will gather on the public sidewalk in front of the Northland Family Planning Clinic, 3810 17 Mile Rd. (just west of Ryan Rd.) on Saturday, February 1st from 11:30AM to 12:30PM. Bring your friends, family, rosary, and weather gear. Park in the shopping center lots nearby - parking is not allowed at the clinic. The prayer event (rosary, chaplet and other prayers) lasts about an hour but may be shortened due to weather - you can also pray nearby from your car.

Note - A small group usually does clinic prayer on Tuesdays, starting around 9:40AM.

For more info, please contact *Anne Marie*, (586) 873-2004

Going Deeper into What the Catholic Church Teaches

Tuesday, January 28

TOPIC: REDEMPTIVE SUFFERING

All are welcome to join the OCIA sessions to learn more about what we believe as Catholics. Whether you've already been Baptized or Confirmed doesn't matter.

Simply come to listen and learn.

Rosary Society Meeting • Saturday, February 1

It's never too late to begin a new devotion to our Blessed Mother and to our Church by joining the Rosary Society.

The Rosary Society will meet on Saturday, February 1, at approximately 10:15AM in the Fr. Mikus Hall. The meeting will begin after the 9:00AM Holy Mass.

ALL women of the parish are welcome to the meeting.

Questions, please contact:

Kathy Holka, (586) 703-4043 or at kholka@aol.com

World Day of the Sick • Saturday, February 8

February 11 is World Day of the Sick, an observation introduced by Pope John Paul II as a way for believers to offer prayers for those suffering from illnesses. It coincides with the memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes, commemorating 18 apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary between February 11 and July 16, 1858. Since then, Lourdes has become a pilgrimage site where many people experience physical and spiritual healing.

The Church always wants to stand by those who are in need and offers them grace from the sacraments established by Jesus Christ.

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is meant for those who suffer from illness or old age. The celebration consists of the anointing of the forehead and hands of the sick person accompanied by the liturgical prayer of the celebrant.

The special grace of this sacrament has as its effects:

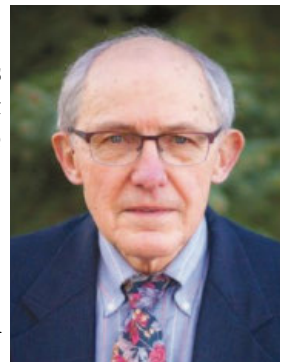
- ◆ the uniting of the sick person to the passion of Christ, for his own good and that of the whole Church
- ◆ the strengthening, peace, and courage to endure in a Christian manner the sufferings of illness or old age
- ◆ the forgiveness of sins, if unable to obtain through the Sacrament of Penance
- ◆ the restoration of health, if it is conducive to the salvation of his soul
- ◆ the preparation for passing over to eternal life

Elderly and sick people will have the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick during the 9:00AM Holy Mass on Saturday, February 8.

Please Remember to Pray for
Our Sick Parishioners,
Family Members & Friends and
Those who are Serving in the Military

Happy Birthday Deacon Gerald Smigell • Sunday, January 26

As the “March for Life” wraps up in Washington, DC, let us celebrate our own Deacon Gerald Smigell's birthday and give thanks for the many years he has led his own march for life each and every week. What perfect timing to celebrate Deacon Gerald's birthday along with the birthdays of so many children who have been saved in response to the Deacon's efforts and prayers.



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Michigan chapter of Helpers of God's Precious Infants continues to change hearts since passing of founder Dan Goodnow

DETROIT (Detroit Catholic, 12/11/24): On October 18 of 2024, the pro-life cause lost a longtime prayer warrior when the founder of the Michigan chapter of Helpers of God's Precious Infants passed away at the age of 86.

A member of the Michigan ministry remembers Dan Goodnow as a “soft-spoken, humble, gentle, gracious” person. “He was really an extraordinary man,” said Kathleen Gerald, who participated for 10 years with Helpers of God's Precious Infants, a sidewalk prayer ministry that continues to hold peaceful prayer vigils outside two abortion clinics on 8 Mile Road in Detroit and Eastpointe.

Goodnow, a member of the Knights of Malta, established the Michigan ministry as a way to reach the hearts of women and men facing unplanned pregnancies, offering support and prayers through a simple witness of presence. According to the Order of Malta, the ministry reaches as many as 11,000 women per year, and often hosts special Masses, vigils and rosary processions, many of which have been attended by Detroit's bishops. It started in January 2000, when Goodnow would go out by himself in the cold.

“Dan would be out there five, six days a week in heat and freezing rain,” said Gerald, who now offers support services for the ministry. “It was beating him up physically. God used up every last ounce of him. People would ask him why he did it. He would say, ‘Well, when your Father (God) asks you to do something, you do it.’”

A quarter of a century later, members of the group who knew Goodnow believe his quiet legacy will continue to live on through the witness of the lives the ministry has changed.

Deacon Gerald Smigell has been a volunteer with Helpers of God's Precious Infants almost since his ordination in 2000. He remembers meeting Goodnow at the first prayer vigil he attended. “I went to one of the vigils, and Dan came up and asked me if I would like to become a counselor. That was it. That is when I began.” Deacon Smigell appreciates the ministry's simple, non-confrontational approach. “It is based primarily on praying the rosary and handing out rosaries,” said Deacon Smigell, 86, a senior deacon from SS. Cyril and Methodius Parish in Sterling Heights. “We offer a rosary to women as they are going in and out of the clinic. It was the rosary foundation that drew me to want to participate in it.”

Helpers of God's Precious Infants first began in Brooklyn, N.Y., in 1989 as a project of Msgr. Philip Reilly, who held the first prayer vigil on Oct. 7 that year, the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. Msgr. Reilly, who died Nov. 30 at the age of 90, was not shy about invoking the Blessed Virgin Mary's help. “The most powerful thing we can do is to go where these babies are dying and ask the intercession of Mary to conquer this demonic force,” Msgr. Reilly said in a video posted on the ministry's New York website. On its website, the New York chapter likens the ministry to the philosophy of St. Teresa of Calcutta, who is known for, among other things, opening homes for the dying around the world. These homes care for the dying who are the “poorest of the poor” so they can die “having experienced the love of Christ.” Since then, the ministry quickly spread to include more than 60 chapters in 37 states, including the one in Michigan founded by Goodnow.

“The objective of Helpers is saving souls,” Gerald said. “We want to save babies, and we want to save families from all the pain that abortion brings, but our objective is to try to save souls — the parents, the abortionists, everyone we encounter.”

The ministry works in conjunction with Pregnancy Aid, a Detroit-based pregnancy resource center that provides counseling referrals, baby supplies and material support. “Whatever they cannot provide, we will,” Deacon Smigell said. “We actually provided a woman with help to repair her furnace. She had no heat in her house. I went to a lady's house and set up a crib because she had nobody to do it. We help with temporary housing for women who need it. Almost anything they might need.”

The volunteers say the witness of prayer warriors like Goodnow and the success stories keep them going. Thousands of women have changed their minds after encountering the sidewalk counselors — including at least 14 families with sets of twins, Deacon Smigell said.

“I personally was involved in four of those twin change-of-hearts,” Deacon Smigell recalled. He especially remembers one encounter. “A man pulled up in his car and called Dan over. He pulled out his phone and said, ‘I have to show you a picture. Thank you for being here to help me save my family.’ He showed Dan a picture of his 5-year-old triplet boys,” Deacon Smigell recalled.

On his first day of counseling, Deacon Smigell remembers another man coming up and asking for a rosary. “He said, ‘My wife and I were coming here fully intending to abort our baby, and there were all these people standing in the median praying rosaries and singing.’ It was one of those prayer vigils Dan would have twice a year with the (arch)bishop. The man said, ‘We heard all these people praying and singing, and it melted our hearts. And we could not do it,’” Deacon Smigell said. “I asked him how old his child was now. He said, ‘Our daughter is 2 years old.’ And I asked her name. He said, ‘Miracle.’”

Deacon Smigell recalls another man who had gone into the clinic with his female companion, and later came out to have a cigarette. He noticed a baby buggy the Helpers had with them, and on the buggy was an ultrasound photograph. “He was looking at the picture. And he said, ‘Tell me about this,’” Deacon Smigell said. “My wife was pushing the baby buggy. She explained it was an ultrasound picture of a 10-week-old unborn baby. She said all its organs are present. And the baby can feel pain. He said, ‘What is all this blob of tissue (stuff) about?’ He put out his cigarette and went inside and got the woman. They accepted our help and left.”

The two clinics at which the Michigan Helpers pray “are almost across the street from each other,” Deacon Smigell said.

While one of the clinics cooperates with the Helpers volunteers — even allowing volunteers to use the clinic's parking lot and sending women who need help out to talk to them — the other clinic presents more of a challenge, Deacon Smigell said. “About a year ago, they started sending escorts out there — men and women with big umbrellas who cover the women up so we can't talk to them as they are going from the parking lot to the clinic,” Deacon Smigell explained. “They (the escorts) really antagonize us as much as they can.”

(Cont'd. on following page)

Geralds said another challenge has been an ordinance passed by the Detroit City Council that prohibits sidewalk counselors from approaching within eight feet of a woman entering an abortion clinic. "The St. Thomas More Society is already engaged in the court system on this," she said. "It is blatantly unconstitutional, yet the Detroit City Council passed it. There are other communities that are considering the same sort of thing. But it is in effect, and we are obeying it."

Deacon Smigell said the ordinance doesn't prevent women from approaching the volunteers, who readily offer to help.

Since Goodnow's passing, both Deacon Smigell and Geralds say the ministry needs more prayer warriors to join them. Geralds said the ministry currently has about 24 active members.

"We are stretched thin," Geralds said. "If God blessed us with enough volunteers, and we had a superabundance of people, we wouldn't be adverse to looking at having sidewalk counselors at other locations."

"There used to be quite a few more of us," Deacon Smigell admits. "Our group is getting older. Sometimes people counsel for a year or so and drop out, and we recruit new ones."

Deacon Smigell said new volunteers don't have to commit right away, but are invited to simply come out, pray for a morning, and see how God moves their hearts. "What we suggest is that someone who is interested come out and pray the rosary with us, and observe what goes on. Saturday mornings are a good time, from 10 a.m. to noon. Then we have training sessions. We have a training manual. We tell them what to say. How to respond to certain questions. We really prepare them," Deacon Smigell said.

He adds post-abortive women who feel called to the ministry can be especially effective counselors. "We have had seven different women counsel with us from time to time who have had an abortion, because it was a very healing ministry for them," he said.

Geralds believes the ministry work has helped her grow spiritually. "I gain so much. I am so extraordinarily blessed. I work with saints," she said. "I am not being glib. I am so blessed working with these people. It has been, and is so good for me."



The next time you see Deacon Gerald, wish him a Happy Birthday and thank him for the gift he is to us. Also, if you want to learn more about sidewalk ministry or *Helpers of God's Precious Infants*, please talk to Deacon Gerald or go to: helpersmi.org.

Women and Families in Need

Abortion is now legal in Michigan at an unprecedented level and the Archdiocese of Detroit is committed to accompanying women and families in need, with greater resolve than ever. In the AOD, we do this largely through Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan, our charitable arm, and through the Archdiocese's Evangelization and Missionary Discipleship Department. In particular, *Walking with Moms in Need* (WWMIN) is a ministry to help parishioners identify and create local resources that provide assistance to pregnant and parenting moms in need, and Project Rachel is an important ministry for individuals who have been harmed by abortion.

For more information and to get involved in these ministries, visit:

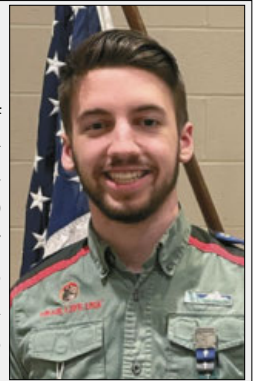
aod.org/walking-with-moms-in-need and evangelicalcharity.org.



For a current list of pregnancy resources: <https://ccsem.org/mom/>

Freedom Rangeman Award

Hello: My name is Andrew Lawler, and I am a member of Trail Life Troop MI-0214 and an altar server at Ss. Cyril and Methodius Parish. I am constructing a Pavilion (diagram below) for our parish, to serve as a place of fellowship, a place for prayer, and for the youth groups. This service project is a requirement to earn my Freedom Rangeman Award which is the highest Award in Trail Life.



In order for my project to be successful, I am asking for help fundraising for my project. To the right is a QR code to GoFundMe if you would like to support my efforts.

Thank you for your prayers and support.

God Bless you,
Andrew Lawler



Eucharistic Adoration

HEART'S DEEPEST LONGING

We should all want to do God's will in our lives. Placing God at the forefront of everything we do in life is to fulfill the purpose why we exist. It's to our satisfaction and lasting happiness. A narrow path but the path we were created for and few find it. This leads us to the second thing we can do to achieve doing God's will in our lives: Strive to do everything as an act of the Divine Will. This means to live our lives as though we only desire to make God happy. By making God happy and accepting all that happens to us in life will ultimately lead to loving our neighbor as we ought; thus fulfilling the second greatest commandment. We need to understand Divine Providence first. Divine Providence, on our part, is the recognition that God orchestrates His creation. There is no such thing as chance or coincidence; everything is an act of God. As Christians we have given the reigns of our lives over to the Lordship of Jesus Christ to do with us whatever He wills. To accept everything that occurs in life (the good and seeming bad) as coming from the very hands of God. St. Alphonsus Ligouri said it the best, "The key to perfection (living in God's will for us) is to be content; whether in times of prosperity or in times of adversity." What we call "problems" are merely our own wills conflicting with God's. God's grace will give us the fortitude during the difficult times, and delight when all is well. So the next time something disagreeable happens to you, simply remember that we deserve worse. It's during these times when we'll experience what St. Paul said, "The peace which passes all understanding. (Phi. 4:7). In this act we do the will of God. - Paul A. Ray

If you have questions about Eucharistic Adoration, or would like to commit to one hour weekly with Our Lord, please contact:

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