# THE BROADCAST.

# APRIL 21, 2024

#### 20800 Grand River Avenue Detroit, Michigan 48219

#### PARISH MISSION

We are Christ the King Parish, a richly diverse Christian Community in Northwest Detroit. We are on a journey of Discipleship with Jesus, seeking conversion, reconciliation and renewal. We reach out in welcome to all the people within our neighborhood, proclaiming the good News of Christ the King, building community, celebrating together, serving one another's needs and the needs of all our neighbors.

EARTH DAY, APRIL 22, 2024

Sixth Mass Extinction: What Would Noah Do? Sea levels are rising due to the sins of humanity.

Many animal species face the possibility of being wiped out in our lifetime. It feels as though the day of reckoning is upon us. Noah would surely feel our pain today. But does he have anything to say to us in the midst of our current crisis?

The biblical text is scant. The Noah in the Book of Genesis is strangely silent when God announces his

terrible judgment upon the Earth. He offers no resistance. He doesn't even question God. He says nothing. What is he thinking?

The Noah story is also found in the Quran. Here, he is a bit more communicative. He complains to Allah that his attempts to convince the people to change their ways has only stiffened their resistance. He certainly would understand the political polarization of our time.

Scientists have been warning us for some time now that we are entering the planet's sixth mass extinction event. Previous extinction events have occurred over the past 450 million years due to extreme volcanic activity, depletion of ocean oxygen levels, and an asteroid.

It took millions of years after each event for the Earth to regain an equivalent number and variety of species. The mass extinction we are now experiencing is unique in that it is human-made. It is the result of loss of habitat, climate change, pollution, and the wildlife trade.

Scientists warn of the domino effect of extinctions because species don't exist in isolation. They interact with other species and within ecosystems. The elimination of one species often affects others, either causing a population collapse or over-proliferation. The result is an erosion of ecosystems, causing loss in biodiversity. Extinction breeds extinction, causing species to disappear at an ever accelerating rate.

Four hundred vertebrate species became extinct during the last century. Under "normal" evolutionary processes such loss would have taken up to 10,000 years.

Today, more than 500 land animal species are on the verge of extinction and are likely to be lost in the next twenty years. This shocking number does not include less complex animals, plant life, and microorganisms that are hovering on the brink of extinction as well.

More alarming still, noted biologist E. O. Wilson says it is altogether possible that we could lose half of all species by the end of the century!

Extinction is the worst of all the environmental challenges we face because it is completely irreversible. In the story of Noah, he is faced with similar cataclysmic circumstances. His example is worth considering.

This man of few words was, if nothing else, practical. Because of the global dimensions of the problems we face, he would probably conclude that we first need to think of the entire planet as our ark. A different type of building, therefore, is required.

He would then be about building safe space for the vulnerable life that has been entrusted to us. But how can that possibly be done? The solution is not easy, but it might in some ways be simpler than we think.

Over two decades ago, biologists Michael Soule and Reed Noss studied the loss of biodiversity and the accelerating rate of extinction and came up with a plan for "rewilding" the planet. The plan consisted of countries around the world setting aside large amounts of land called "cores" for purposes of preserving and restoring biodiversity. National parks and wildlife preserves would only be a starting point. These massive cores would be connected by natural "corridors," where whole ecosystems could flourish.

12.7.15

While the commitment to rewilding varies from country to country, there clearly has been an increased effort to protect natural habitats. In 1962, only 3 percent of the Earth's surface was protected. Today, that number is over 12 percent. Rewilding is becoming a mainstream idea in scientific circles.

The E.O. Wilson Biodiversity Foundation has called for 50 percent of the planet to be protected. It maintains that its "Half-Earth Project" can effectively combat the sixth mass extinction by rewilding half the globe, including land and oceans.

The foundation is currently conducting a planet wide analysis, mapping locations of endangered species around the world. By targeting the most biodiverse areas, the plan being devised will maximize the preservation and restoration of ecosystems. The key to the success of the project is designing a plan that takes human populations and development into account as well.

God picked Noah to be an integral part of his plan for creation not because he was necessarily smart, but because he was "just." A just person pursues justice and not self interest. Accordingly, Noah probably would not have been persuaded by arguments of how the preservation of species will benefit humanity. Rather, care of creation for Noah was a response to God's call. It is a call to love what God loves, to preserve life for its own sake and not for ours. Justice requires us to recognize the inherent worth, the interdependence, and the sacredness of creation. It requires us to be builders of safe places.

- Kevin Gordon

www.ctkcatholicdetroit.org

## St. Christine Christian Services

15317 Dacosta at Fenkell......313-535-7272 Www.SCCSdetroit.org

Siena Literacy

16888 Trinity Caitlyn Pisarski 313-532-8404

## Pastoral Staff

Rev.John McKenzie, jmckenzie@christthekingschoodetroit.org Deacon Joe Urbiel......deaconjoeurbiel@gmail.com 248-910-0490 Deacon Chris Remus....chris.remus@sbcglobal.net 313-717-5672 Mr. Teron Varner, Pastoral Assistant tvarner@christthekingschooldetroit.org Parish Office/Mrs. Nicole Archibald...... christthekingparish@christthekingschooldetroit.org Mrs. Brittany Culkowski.....Principal bculkowski@christthekingschooldetroit.org Ms. Bethanne McCall......Choir Director feddy428@gmail.com

Little Scholars - Christ the King Campus Shirley Wright-Hailey, Director 313-693-4260

#### Parish Unity Team Members:

Angela Varner.....Team Leader Mark Barkey, Paulette Washburn, Judy Bruttell, Susan Groenenboom, Kevin Gordon, Ron Eady

#### <u>Teams</u>

Deacon Chris Remus	.Evangelical Charity
Carole Ann Beaman	Worship
Ron Hildebrandt	Finance Council
Jahmal Ross	Parish Director
Angela Varner	Faith Formation
Joshua Webb	Engagement

St. Vincent dePaul......313-535-7272

#### Liturgy Schedule

Sunday.....10:45am Tuesdays: beginning Sept. 5 5:30pm-6:630pm Adoration & Confessions

6:30pm Mass

7:30pm alternating weeks between Bible Study and Faith Formation Talks

Wednesdays: 8:40am Mass during the school year

#### **Becoming Catholic**

Adults, Children, Youth: If you are interested in becoming a member of the Catholic faith or learning more about the Catholic Church, the Adult Catechumenate will prepare you for this decision. Please call the Parish Office if you would like more information.

**Infants:** At the celebration of Baptism, parents publicly affirm their decision to raised their child in the faith of the church. To make arrangements for your infant to be baptized, please contact the Parish Office. Pre-Baptismal classes for parents and godparents are necessary, held as arranged with families.

# PRAYER & WORSHIP

## MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday April 21, 2024
10:45am David Collins
By Friends at Christ the King Monday & Tuesday ~ No Mass

Wednesday CHRIST THE KING 8:40am For all victims of war By The people of Christ the King Thursday 9am at SS/OLGH

Friday & Saturday ~ No Mass Sunday April 28, 2024 10:45am Stephen Fenbert By Sheila Fenbert

Don't forget to stop by the Coffee Hour sign up board and pick a Sunday

that you can sponsor. It's an easy job when you work with friends!

#### WORDS OF BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON



"Break down all those barriers that separate one group from another. Go out to the highways and byways, bring in the poor, the neglected, the crippled, the

blind, the lame, the rejected bring them all in. Common sense, human wisdom, would not do that. Jesus is saying to break away from that, go beyond, leap into the reign of God, where there aren't rules like that, for God is all-inclusive, all-welcoming, allloving.

Are we ready to move beyond human wisdom, to try really to live according to the reign of God, the way of Jesus? Let go of what would be common sense and be like Jesus, have a divine wisdom, a wisdom that most people think is foolish. Accept suffering rather than inflict it. Be killed rather than kill. Love to the point of laying down your life for others without condition, without limit. Are we ready to do that?"

Please let an usher know if you would like to receive Communion at your pew.

## FOOD FOR THE JOURNEY

#### Sun 4/21 4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:8-12, 1Jn 3:1-2, Jn 10:11-18 Mon 4/22 Acts 11:1-18, Jn 10:1-10 Tue 4/23 Acts 11:19-26, Jn 10:22-30 Wed 4/24 Acts 12:24-13:5a, Jn 12:44-50

Thu 4/25 1Pt 5:5b-14, Mk 16:15-20 Fri 4/26 Acts 13:44-52, Jn 14:7-14 Sat 4/27 Acts 13:44-52, Jn 14:7-14 **Sun 4/28 5th Sunday of Easter** Acts 9:26-31, 1 Jn3:18-24, Jn 15:1-8

#### OUR LITURGICAL MINISTERS

For NEXT Sunday, April 28

Lectors: Shirley Carne & Marge Johnson

**Serving at the Table of the Lord:** Genny Singleton

## Minister of Service: Ron Eady

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#### THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun. 4/21 10:45am Mass Coffee Hour Tue. 4/23 7:30pm Bible Study Zoom Wed. 4/24 8:40am Mass 7 & 8 Grade Field Trip St. Ann Basilica Thu 4/25 9am Mass SS/OLGH

Garage Sale Donations accepted weekdays from 2pm to 7pm Saturdays 12 Noon to 2pm

#### Don't Forget!



For the month ofn April we will be collecting Granola Bars, Paper Towels and Toilet Paper. Bring your donations with you to Mass on Sunday and we will make sure they are most needed. Thank you

for your generosity!

Another reminder....please keep in mind that St. Christine's Pantry uses hundreds of bags every week. Any bags that you can donate will be deeply appreciated.



# **EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## SOME EASTER SEASON BASICS

• The fifty days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost are celebrated as one great feast. Just as the Triduum consists of one liturgy that spans three days, so too the Easter season is one great Sunday—one feast that spans fifty days. The General Norms for the Liturgical Year states: "The fifty days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost are sometimes called the great 'Sunday (#22)." The Sundays of the Easter season are included in the Easter event and story. In other words, Easter is not over on Easter Monday. It takes fifty days to celebrate Easter.

• The Church does not refer to each Sunday as that particular Sunday after Easter; rather it refers to each Sunday as the Sunday of Easter (i.e. the Second Sunday of Easter, the Third Sunday of Easter, etc.). All the Sundays of the Easter season are part of the Easter story.

• Every Sunday of the Easter season is a very solemn feast—a high holy, a Great feast. We call such feasts solemnities.

• The Eighth Sunday of Easter is called Pentecost Sunday. (the Easter season is celebrated as a "week of weeks.")

• Another significant feast of the Easter season is the Ascension of the Lord. This feast takes place forty days after Easter on what is referred to as Ascension Thursday.

\* The feast of the Ascension is a crucial element in the Easter story. Jesus had to ascend to the throne from which he came in order for the gates of heaven to be opened for waiting souls to enter eternity. Jesus had to ascend to his Father for salvation to be complete and fulfilled. It was not simply the resurrection that accomplished salvation—the ascension (Jesus' return to his Father's throne) was needed to complete it.

\* There is symbolic significance in the number forty. The number forty is a sacred number in the Bible. It rained for forty days in the Old Testament, and the subsequent flood lasted for forty days. Moses stayed on Mount Horeb for forty days and the Israelites similarly wandered in the desert for forty days. Moses and Elijah fasted for forty days and Jesus fasted in the desert for forty days. The number represents a time of testing, trial, and probation followed by a time of renewal, restoration, hope and revival. There is a reference in the Acts of the Apostles to Jesus appearing during forty days. The Ascension story refers to forty days—a time of fulfillment. Thus, when determining the date for celebrating the feast of Ascension the Church determined that forty days after Easter was the appropriate time.

\* In places where the feast of the Ascension is not a holy day of obligation, the feast is moved and replaces the Seventh Sunday of Easter. The weekday masses following the feast of the Ascension are considered preparation for the feast of Pentecost. During these weekday masses we are invited with Mary, the women and the disciples to prayerfully await the coming of the Holy Spirit

## ESPECIALLY FOR NEW CATHOLICS

The fifty days of Easter is a very significant time for new Catholics. It is also referred to as the period of mystagogia that means, "uncovering the mysteries". Ancient neophytes were given sacramental instruction by the bishop after the reception of the sacraments due to a belief that people were unable to fully understand the sacraments of baptism or Eucharist until they experienced it. St. Ambrose taught the newly baptized: "I shall begin now to speak of the sacraments which you have received. It was not proper for me to do so before this because the Christian faith must come first."

## **Church Announcements**

- 1.Garage Sale donations accepted began April 13th. Sale will begin June 8th
- 2.Our Sharing collection for the month of April is Granola bars, toilet paper, and paper towel

## School Announcements

1.STEM program every Wednesday at the school at 3:302.CK Skating party 5/3





Financial training Child car seats Services for Veterans Domestic support Homeless