

Jerry's Journal



Just a friendly reminder that on the weekend of May 5 & 6, we will be allotting the time at Mass reserved for the homily to begin our 2018 Catholic Services Appeal (CSA). The target goal for St. Paul of Tarsus Parish, which was assigned to us by the Archdiocese of Detroit (AoD), is \$168,074. This amount is based on a formula that is a percentage of our parish's three-year average offertory (weekend) collection. St. Paul of Tarsus Parish, for the past several years, has made the CSA goal assigned to it and, with your generous assistance, we hope to achieve, or exceed, the target goal that we have been ascribed.

Through the CSA we share Christ's message by serving countless people in ways we may not even realize. Many people, through the funding provided by the CSA, enjoy the work of the Archdiocesan Central Services Departments of Communication, Development and Stewardship, Evangelization and Catechesis and Parish Life. Our gifts to the CSA also support the Offices of Priestly Vocations, Sacred Heart Major Seminary and the Archdiocese of Detroit Metropolitan Tribunal. When we use God's blessings to make our annual pledge to the CSA, we join with faith communities and parishes throughout the AoD to do the Lord's work - work that one individual parish could never do alone.

Please take the time over the course of the next few weeks to prayerfully consider your level of support to the Catholic Services Appeal. Thank you for your support you have demonstrated over the past years and for your continued participation in this year's Catholic Services Appeal.

Tomorrow evening, Monday, April 16, we will be offering a workshop/presentation on the work of the Archdiocese of Detroit's Tribunal as it relates to Decrees of Nullity (annulment) of a marriage which has ended in divorce. There is oftentimes much confusion and misunderstanding, as well as just bad information out there, when it comes to the work of the Tribunal. For a period of 14 years I served in the Tribunal as one the judges for petitions for a Decree of Nullity.

Each year over 100,000 Americans, including many thousands of non-Catholics, are involved in the Catholic Church's annulment process. Many of the questions that I will cover are: Is there a fee assessed for making a petition for an annulment? How long does an annulment take? Will the length of time two people were married make a difference in an annulment case? Does infidelity serve as

grounds for seeking an annulment? What are some the various grounds used by the Tribunal in annulment cases? Does an annulment of a marriage render children from that marriage illegitimate?

Please consider attending this workshop if you, or a family member, might benefit from this seminar. There will be a time to ask questions so that hopefully, by the end of the presentation, the annulment process will be more clearly understood and any misconceptions will be clarified.

Fr Jerry Slowinski

“Marc” My Words



In today’s Gospel the disciples are assembled behind locked doors. Jesus comes to them and offers them a sign of peace. They were “startled, terrified, and troubled.” Jesus asks them two questions: “Why are your hearts troubled?” and “Have you anything here to eat?” When Sue and I heard of Sr. Judie’s passing we were “troubled” not knowing how to proceed.

Then Grace “appeared in our midst” and let Sue and I know that Sr. Judie’s ministry and our Sandwich Saturday ministry could continue. Grace has “graciously” stepped up and is giving it a go! In lieu of this, Sandwich Saturday will resume on May 12th and should continue the second Saturday of every month. WE will continue to feed the hungry. Grace sent Sue a biography and vision of her ministry, continuing in the footsteps of Sr. Judie. The biography follows:

I have been married to my husband John, for the last eight years and we live in Grosse Pointe Woods. I have one son, Brandon, who lives in New York.

I worked at PVS Chemicals, Inc. in Detroit for about 20 years. I was their Human Resource Director. I retired 3 years ago and currently work part-time for Crime Stoppers of Michigan. I am responsible for Human Resources and I manage volunteers and interns.

I met Sister Judie about 9 years ago. A coworker at PVS came to my office with an article about Sister and asked me if we could help this nun. I read the article and thought that we should help her. I went to the owner of the company, Jim Nicholson, and talked to him about helping Sister Judie and he agreed. We had fundraisers and food, clothing and blanket drives to help her out. We would always put a notice in our newsletters about how to help her. We would bring her the money and donations that we received.

After I retired, I helped Sister more and was available when she needed me. She was an inspirational person in my life and I'm a better person as a result of knowing and helping her.

Sister's life deserves a legacy. It was her wish for her ministry to continue. After her death, I decided to take over her work to feed the homeless and underprivileged in the Detroit Eastern Market area. This will be accomplished with the help of her wonderful volunteers. The new organization has been named "Sister Judie's Outreach," in honor of her. If you would like to volunteer or donate, please see the information below:

Sister Judie's Outreach

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