

St. Ambrose Parish

Our 101st Year!
OCTOBER 8, 2017
BEEHIVE



The Detroit I Knew and Know

Detroit's former chief of police and deputy mayor, Isaiah McKinnon will be at St. Ambrose this Sunday morning speaking as part of our Adult Education Series about Detroit's insurrection in the Summer of 1967. The following is an excerpt from an article by Christine Ferretti, which was printed in the Detroit News on July 20th of this year.

Isaiah "Ike" McKinnon was in full uniform after a 16-hour shift during 1967's uprising when he was stopped by a pair of white officers on his way home and threatened with death.

"I said 'police officer. I'm a police officer,'" McKinnon recalled yelling out as he was ordered from his 1965 convertible Mustang on the Lodge Freeway near Chicago. "They had their guns out. I remember one officer so vividly. He was probably in his late 40s. He had brush-cut, silver hair. He said 'today, you gonna die (racial slur).'"

It was as if things were unfolding in slow motion, McKinnon said, as he watched his fellow officer pull the trigger. He dove back into his car. "With my right hand, I pushed the accelerator, my left hand I steered my Mustang, and they were shooting at me as I drove off," he said. McKinnon escaped uninjured, drove home and reported the shooting to a sergeant. It was never investigated.

That was McKinnon's first brush with death during those tense July days, but he said it wasn't his last. "It was as if God was saying, 'I'm going to give you this test, Ike, and let you see how bad people can be, but I'm going to let you live through that,'" said McKinnon, who returned to work the next day. "I was never more afraid as those days in July during the riots."

McKinnon would later become Detroit's chief of police in the 1990s as well as more recently deputy mayor under Mayor Mike Duggan. McKinnon, like so many in Detroit who lived through the tumultuous time, is retelling his experiences as the summer of 1967 comes back into focus 50 years later. The 74-year-old recounted the looting, chaos and a confrontation in which he and other officers were pummeled with bricks and bottles by a rowdy crowd.

The police department was "woefully unprepared" to handle the situation on its own and was forced to call in the Michigan Army National Guard, he said. "I don't think the city or anyone saw it coming. But I think the contributing factors were this horrible discrimination, segregation that occurred for years," he said. "It was an open gate."

One night, McKinnon was patrolling with the National Guard at Joy and Linwood near the former Detroit Bank and Trust. Shots rang out and bullets began skipping along Joy. The source of the gunfire wasn't clear. "I dove off the vehicle and did a cartwheel, did another cartwheel and I ended up against the wall (of the bank) and I tried to mold myself into the wall because of the bullets that were coming out," McKinnon said. "The National Guardsmen saved my life"

McKinnon retired last year as deputy mayor of Detroit, where he served for two and a half years. He retired from the police department in 1998 after serving as chief. He's now working as a professor of education at University of Detroit Mercy. "I've heard people say, 'You've got to move on. The riot was 50 years ago.' I say, 'hold on a minute. I almost died,'" he said. "I will never forget what happened in 1967. I don't think people should."

McKinnon moved to Detroit from Montgomery, Ala., when he was nine with his parents and five siblings. He gradu-

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The Detroit I Knew and Know

Continued from page 1

ated from Cass Technical High School in 1961 and served four years in the U.S. Air Force, spending his last in Vietnam. He was discharged in 1965. That August, he joined the Detroit Police Department.

McKinnon earlier decided at age 14 that he'd become an officer after being beaten by a group of white Detroit police officers who were part of a unit known as the "Big Four." The unit, created in the 1950s as many white Detroiters began moving to the suburbs, consisted of a uniformed officer riding with three plainclothes officers in unmarked cars. The group was assigned to search for felons, but quickly gained a reputation for harassing black citizens. In McKinnon's case, the officers jumped out of the patrol car and grabbed him as he was leaving Garfield Junior High. McKinnon said he went to visit his favorite teacher and let him know he'd been accepted into Cass. "They threw me up against the car. They beat me up. I kept asking 'why?' There was no reason," he said. "I was in the wrong place at the wrong time. Then they told me to get my ass out of there. I ran home. I didn't tell my parents. I didn't tell anyone."

In the 1950s, McKinnon said, it was rare to see a black police officer in Detroit. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and other groups pushed for integration, but it led to pushback from officers. When he joined in 1965, there was an extreme shortage of black officers in Detroit. The department had roughly 4,000 officers — only about 40 were black, he said. And the attitudes of many white officers didn't make it easy on him.

On his first night, he was the only officer of color among 25 to 30 officers at roll call. A white officer he'd graduated from high school with declined to acknowledge him and then made derogatory comments when the two were assigned to patrol together. "So this is my indoctrination. My welcome to the Detroit Police Department," he said. "The officers laughed. The supervisors said nothing about this."

McKinnon said some nights on patrol he rode around in silence with white partners who refused to acknowledge him. But he learned other white officers, including long-time colleague Frank Mitchell, could be accepting of black officers. When Mitchell joined the force in 1963, just two black officers were in his academy class.

"The makeup of the department never crossed my mind until I got there," said Mitchell, 80, who grew up on the city's east side. "It wasn't what I expected. It was a time when the changes were starting to be made, but they were very minute changes in the treatment of black officers as they were coming on." Mitchell said black officers were excluded from shooting pool, playing cards or table tennis at the station, and many were assigned to parking ticket duty. Some quit based on the poor assignments and treatment, he recalled. Things "got bad," he recalled, when the department began integrating black officers into scout cars. He recalled one white officer putting cardboard between himself and a black partner. Another, he

said, sprayed down the inside of the car after a black officer had been working in it. "I just didn't understand it," he said. "It didn't make sense."

Mitchell said he and McKinnon became fast friends. He spent most of his 35 years in the department working around McKinnon, including an assignment in the internal affairs division, prosecuting police officers for misconduct. The pair worked and studied together for lieutenant and sergeant and both went on to make inspector, he said. Once McKinnon was appointed police chief by former mayor Dennis Archer in 1994, he added Mitchell to the leadership team.

"Ike was very good for the department. Ike calmed it all down and got it all straight. He did an excellent job," said Mitchell, who was promoted to commander and then deputy chief under McKinnon. "With all of the things that he went through and the experiences he had, it all played a part in what he did when he got a chance to make improvements. He did it the way it should be."

Archer said he was first directed to link up with McKinnon as he geared up for his bid for office, talking with others about the city and its future. Ultimately, he called on McKinnon to assemble a volunteer security team to accompany him while campaigning. He admired McKinnon's ideas and later asked him to become Detroit's top cop. Archer said he called on him to help boost the department's image and its relationships with other law enforcement agencies. "I was pleased with the work that he did," he said. "I was pleased with the people that he brought around him."

Nearly 20 years after leaving the department, McKinnon is still able to recite the first paragraph of the code of conduct from memory: "*As a law enforcement officer my fundamental duty is to serve the community, to safeguard lives and property, to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation, and respect the constitutional rights of all to liberty, equality and justice.*"

"I tried to live by that," he said.

Vincenian Reflection

The good news of this Gospel is that all we need to do is let God tend us and bring us to produce good fruit. All we need to do is be faithful; God will take care of the rest. Please help the St. Vincent de Paul Conference here at St. Ambrose, bring the love and mercy of Jesus to those who feel left out and abandoned.

Our own enjoyment of a meal on Thanksgiving should also ensure that some low-income families can also enjoy a special holiday meal. Our St. Vincent dePaul Society here in the parish provides all the fixings for a great meal for about 50 households who otherwise might go without.

1. Pick up a box at one of the masses on this weekend or on the weekends of Oct. 14-15 or 21-22.
2. Take home the box and fill it with the groceries listed inside. (about \$30 worth of Kroger-brand items.)
3. Return it to the church by October 29th.

All Things Considered

Over the next few weeks, you'll see work being done on the west and east facades of the church building. This will be the third round of tuck-pointing on this building in thirty years. Interestingly, we are returning to the services of Grunwell-Cashero, the same company that did the work here back in 1989. They have been working at maintaining and restoration of some of the best vintage masonry buildings in the midwest for over six decades. Our first job with this company was when the original owner, Fidel, was still running the business. We had virtually no money at the time, but Fidel took pity on our situation, did the work and waited forever for payment. Now his grandchildren are returning and I have a lot of confidence that the work they are now doing for us will last a long time. The first phase of the masonry and stone restoration on the church building will cost \$45,000, which is just about half of what we allotted in this year's budget for repairs across the whole plant. In order to

make this work, we need to keep on track with our revenue projections in our weekly envelopes and in our end of the year donations.

Another long delayed repair project that is scheduled to start before cold weather, are parking lot pavement repairs, resealing and re-striping. At the same time, the automatic gate on Alter Road will be replaced which will allow us to secure our parking lot after services. We used to have to wait until all our parishioners and ARK guests had driven off the lot before we could secure it. That meant that we usually gave up looking for the inevitable straggler who left their vehicle here after mass and didn't return for it until hours later.

The new gate will always allow exit from the lot, so we can lock the Hampton entrance right after mass and vehicles can leave on their own – but not enter unless they had a card key.

Why so much fuss about parking? There are four apartment buildings contiguous to our lot – none of which provide any parking for their tenants. Left unsecured, our lot would fill up quickly on nights and weekends. To keep our lot open for the use our parishioners and guests, we need to have a way of controlling access. Our parish spent close to a million dollars devel-

oping this parking area, and as such it is not a public facility. The cost for both of these most recent parking lot repairs – the resealing and replacement of the automatic arm – will be \$22,000.

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We are still pulling together invoices from the OYSTERFEST, so we do not have a figure to report as to the profitability of the event. From what I have seen thus far, we continue our track record of “spending a dollar to make a dollar.” Our major sponsors and restaurants really do make a difference.

We have, however, wrapped up the Raffle portion of the event. We reported to the State of Michigan a net profit of \$8,595. That's respectable considering last year's Centennial Raffle, (The Best of Detroit) which was way more elaborate and had almost two more months of selling time, produced just about the same profit.

If memory serves me, that \$9,000 figure was just about what our Oysterfest Raffle produced in 2014 and 2013. There is a “raffle ceiling” here in this parish that I can't seem to break, no matter what the premium, ticket price, or length of sales time. I'd be happy to turn this endeavor over to someone willing to work at it better than I have.

TRP



Fifty years after the 1967 Detroit uprising, we will host a dialogue with three of the contributing authors from the anthology: [Detroit 1967](#), along with the former chief of the Detroit police. What were the origins, impacts and legacies of that time in history.

- Oct. 1 The Rages of Whiteness: Racism, Segregation and the Making of Modern Detroit**
Kevin Boyle: American History Professor at Northwestern University, holder of four National Book Awards, including [Arc of Justice](#).
- Oct. 8 The Detroit I Knew and Know**
Ike McKinnon: Associate Professor of Education at University of Detroit. He is a former Deputy Mayor and Chief of Police of the City of Detroit.
- Oct. 15 It Can Happen Here: Model City Once Again?**
Desiree Cooper: Attorney, Pulitzer Prize-nominated journalist and Detroit community activist
- Oct. 22 The Storytellers: Getting to the Heart of the Matter**
Tim Kiska: Detroit newsman, author and professor of journalism at the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

Discussions will be held Sunday mornings from 9:45 to 11 in the ARK at St. Ambrose.



Name

Home Phone

Work Phone

Email Address

- I would simply like to learn more about the Catholic Faith.
- I desire to prepare for my Baptism into Christianity.
- I've been Baptized as a Christian and now desire to join in Catholic Communion.
- I'm non-Catholic, but married to a Catholic, and now wish to join the Catholic Church.
- I'm Catholic and I would like to complete my initiation into the Catholic Church by celebrating Confirmation and/or Communion.
- I'm Baptized Catholic and would like to learn more about my faith and how to practice it.
- I want to propose someone for Catholic Church membership and offer to serve as their sponsor.
- I would be willing to help with an R.C.I.A. program.
- I have other needs, requests, and questions. Please contact me.

Return this to the Parish Rectory or place it in the Collection basket.

Post Diakonos

I lived in California wine country, Santa Barbara county specifically, during my second year in the order, mid-summer from 2011 to 2012. You couldn't ask for a better ag neighbor than a vineyard, or so it appeared to me in my limited experience in that world. There were rarely any signs of activity among the thousands of acres (21K according to a site search at Santa Barbara Vintners) I cycled and walked past during that long and nearly perfect year out west. How I miss the quiet of those hours and how precisely do I remember the beautiful symmetry of those stakes and vines. It was only rarely that I would see a pick-up truck out in a field with a few workers dispatched from it, tending to a plant or a pump or an irrigation line maybe. I was in the first class to be sent to California, and in the years following, the brothers have started their own vineyard. Your next Capuchin placement will be able to shed more light on the nuts and bolts of making *vino, in veritas*.

I set those memories next to more recent ones from Wisconsin, where I have also been posted in recent years. Sure, the rolling hills and creeks and rivers near our friary for retired brothers and our high school are lovely to look at, but the smell from the concentrated dairy operations and the roar of the speeding semis hauling milk and manure are flinch-worthy. And those hills are being leveled, with many acres of farmland being lost, because beneath the topsoil is sand ideal for fracking. Many farmers are selling out and moving on.

The methods used to produce the greatest amount at the lowest price are, from a wider range of measurements, inflicting a high cost on the environment, on people, on animals, and on the next generations. Harper's ran an article last year about the intersection of production methods, public policy, and corporate influence in Iowa.* Wonky? Yes. Filled with surprises? Not really. In my work with our province's Justice, Peace, and Care for Creation commission I'm tasked to engage environmental realities. But this detail has become seared in memory, too, not as a treasure but with dread: the author was told that pheasant hunters in Iowa carry bottled water for their dogs, so polluted with toxins and algae have the streams and fields and wetlands of that fecund state become from the run-off and residue generated by big lots, big flocks, and big herds.

Contemporary realities make the parable in today's Gospel difficult for this hearer to engage. Yes, the workers in the vineyard had their hearts set on malice and worse – but can anyone show me a field or a farm where owners are in fear of their hirelings? It's not a rhetorical question, because I have a new ministry, representing the province in its role as a member of the Interfaith Center for Corporate Responsibility (iccr.org). Please pray for our work.

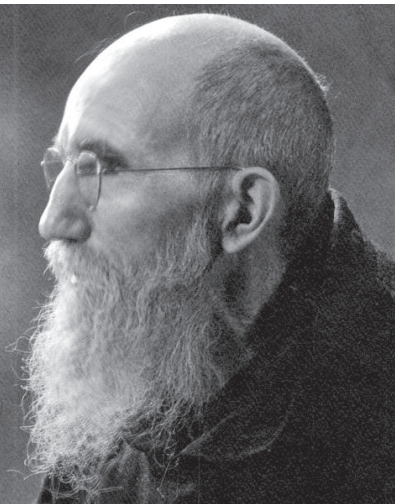
Fr. Robert Wotyпка

* harpers.org/archive/2016/02/the-trouble-with-iowa/

Fr. Solanus' Beatification

The beatification ceremony of Venerable Fr. Solanus Casey will be held on Saturday, November 18, 2017 at Ford Field in Detroit.

We invite you to join with the Capuchins as they rejoice in this remarkable blessing! A gift of any amount in support of this sacred celebration is deeply appreciated. Gift envelopes are available in church. For gifts over \$1,000, please contact Kristi Hassouna, Development Director for the Capuchin Province of St. Joseph to coordinate at 313.579.2100 ext.185 or khassouna@thecapuchins.org.



Faith Formation Station

"The rosary is the book of the blind, where souls see and there enact the greatest drama of love the world has ever known; it is the book of the simple, which initiates them into mysteries and knowledge more satisfying than the education of other men; it is the book of the aged, whose eyes close upon the shadow of this world, and open on the substance of the next.

The power of the rosary is beyond description."

~Archbishop Fulton Sheen

October is The Month of the Rosary. During this month, we honor Mary, the Mother of Jesus, in prayers and rituals for the very special role she played in the history of our salvation. Set aside time this month to pray the Rosary together as a family. All of the students in our faith formation program will be receiving a special rosary in class along with a how-to sheet on praying the Rosary.

When praying the Rosary as a family this month, you might wish to share some interesting background information on this sacred Catholic tradition.

Long ago, people living in the desert or in monasteries used pebbles, sticks, or lines drawn in the sand to count their prayers. Herein lies the early roots of the Catholic Rosary. People progressed to counting knots on a cord, then to the beads we know today.

At one time, monks prayed the Our Father 72 times, keeping count with 72 beads. Because the Hebrew practice of praying 150 psalms in the temple continued in Christian monasteries, the practice of praying 150 beads gradually evolved. Educated priests and monks could read and pray the psalms from books. The large majority of people who could not read, however, were able to count their prayers and devotions with beads.

In their use of pebbles to count prayers, the early desert monks started the Church on a great tradition. It allows people of all ages to meditate on faith while comforting beads, kind to the senses, pass through the fingers. Every word of the rosary is kind to our senses. A rosary is a place where roses grow, a garden, a place of fragrance and beauty. Prayer takes us to a beautiful place inside ourselves, even better than a rose garden. Praying the Rosary often brings a sense of quiet and peace that helps people to reflect on the mysteries of the rosary. It is important to remember, however, that the Rosary is more than just a repetition of prayers. It is an invitation for us to meditate on the mysteries – events that form the foundation of our faith. It relates to the ancient Christian prayer practice called *lectio, meditatio, and oratio* -- Latin words for "read," "think about," and "talk or listen to God in prayer."

PROGRAM COMMUNICATION REMINDERS: Monthly family emails will be sent out to the main contact email indicated on your registration form. Please be sure to read this month's email with important program dates and reminders. Feel free to contact the Religious Education Office directly with any questions, concerns, or ideas you may have throughout the year. Contact Kelly Woolums at (313) 882-1248 or reled.stambrose@comcast.net.

FIRST RECONCILIATION & COMMUNION MEETING OCTOBER 18, AT 6:30-8:00PM IN THE ARK: Please join us for an introductory meeting for parents of children preparing for these sacraments this year. At this meeting we will review our programming for the year, pass out important information and dates, and help guide parents in their role in preparing their children for the sacraments. At least one parent is expected to attend.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Our teaching staff is in place, but we are still in need of classroom assistants, office assistants, and substitute catechists. If you are interested and willing to volunteer weekly, bi-weekly, or even once a month, please let us know. We cannot run a successful program without all of our amazing volunteers. Please consider joining our catechetical team.

Kelly Woolums

Marcellina's Book Club



Detroit 1967: Origins, Impacts, Legacies is a soon-to-be released anthology from 30 contributors offering up memories, facts and analysis and some suggestions for the future.

The book ends with a cautiously optimistic tale: "Fifty years after the riots, Detroit is living up to its motto. It is seeing better things. It is rising from the ashes. And if city leaders, residents and businesses are willing to build a city that works for everyone, they are sure to avoid the fire next time."

We've selected this work for your summer reading. Our book club gathering will be held the four Sunday mornings in October from 9:45 until 11:00 a.m. in the ARK.

The Beehive

is the parish weekly bulletin of the St. Ambrose Catholic Community Detroit/Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan

Pastor: Rev. Timothy R. Pelc
Assistant: Rev. Robert Wotycka OFM, Cap
Assistant: Rev. Mr. John Maksym
Pastoral Minister: Charles Dropiewski
Religious Education: Kelly Anne Woolums
Minister of Music: Norah Duncan IV
Office Manager: Pamela Moffitt

Sacramental Celebrations

Masses: On the Lord's Day –

Saturday Vigil - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday - 8:30 and 11:15 a.m.

Baptism: Arrangements for both adults and infants to be made by contacting the rectory.

Penance: As announced and by appointment.

Marriage: Couples should contact the rectory office a minimum of six months in advance of the proposed date to make arrangements.

Funeral: Normally celebrated within one week after the deceased's passing.

Directory

Parish Office: 15020 Hampton

Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan 48230

Tel: (313) 822-2814 **Fax:** (313) 822-9838

Email address: stambrose@comcast.net

Religious Education: (313) 822-1248

Pastoral Ministry: (313) 822-2017

Ark Scheduling: (313) 822-2814

Parish Website: stambrosechurch.net

Liturgy Schedule for the Coming Week

Monday, October 9

St. Denis, bishop & Companions, martyrs & St. John Leonardi, priest

8:30 a.m. - Morning Prayer

Tuesday, October 10

8:30 a.m. - Mass - Virginia Sossi

Wednesday, October 11

St. John XXIII, pope

8:30 a.m. - Morning Prayer

Thursday, October 12

8:30 a.m. - Mass - Josephine Eady;
Rev. Addison Wright

Friday, October 13

8:30 a.m. - Mass - James Seigel;
Robert Rambush

Saturday, October 14

St. Callistus I, pope & martyr

1:30 - Wedding - Kathryn Paras &
Ken Barbour

4:00 p.m. - Mass - For All People

Sunday, October 15

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary time

8:30 a.m. - Mass - For All People
11:15 a.m. - Mass - For All People



Scriptures for the 27th Week of Ordinary Time

Monday, October 9

- Jon 1: 1-2; 2, 11
- (Ps) Jon 2: 2-5, 8
- Lk 10: 25-37

Tuesday, October 10

- Jon 3: 1-10
- Ps 130: 1-4, 7-8
- Lk 10: 38-42

Wednesday, October 11

- Jon 4: 1-11
- Ps 86: 3-6, 9-10
- Lk 11: 1-4

Thursday, October 12

- Mal 3: 13-20b
- Ps 1: 1,4-6
- Lk 11: 5-13

Friday, October 13

- Jl 1: 13-15; 2: 1-2
- Ps 9: 2-3, 6, 8-9, 16
- Lk 11: 15-26

Saturday, October 14

- Jl 4: 12-21
- Ps 97: 1-2, 5-6, 11-12
- Lk 11: 27-28

Sunday, October 15

- Is 25: 6-10a
- Phil 4: 12-14, 19-20
- Mt 22: 1-14 or 22: 1-10

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time October 14th and October 15th

4:00 p.m. – Saturday – Celebrant: Fr. Pelc **Lector:** Bern Degnan
Eucharistic Ministers: Maria Cox- & Adam Borkowski, Karen McShane,
Mary Helen Quigg, Matthew Strong, Mary Urbanski
Altar Servers: Daniel Bernas & Eleanor Bernas

8:30 a.m. – Sunday – Celebrant: Fr. Bede **Lector:** Bob Gatzke
Eucharistic Ministers: Thomas Bennert, Colleen Gatzke, Christopher Harrison,
Steve Linne, Bernadette Pieczynski, Chris Walsh
Altar Servers: Nicholas, Margaret, & Meredith Kramer

11:15 a.m. – Sunday - Celebrant: Fr. Pelc **Lector:** Kurt Vatalaro
Eucharistic Ministers: Lupe Davila, Sue & Roger Playwin,
Janis Ramsey, Cristina Swiatkowski, Patty Yaden
Altar Servers: Liam & Maria Liburdi

Your Envelope Speaks . . . the Inside Story

To operate, each week our parish requires a *minimum* of \$10,100.00
On Sunday, October 1, 2017
in envelopes we received \$8,888.00
in the loose collection \$752.00
in electronic donations \$1,390.00
in children's envelopes \$6.00
for a total of **\$11,036.00**
Over budget for the week \$936.00
Number of envelopes mailed 800
Number of envelopes used 172

"The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone..." - MATTHEW 21:42

Jesus was the cornerstone and He was rejected by the religious and political leaders of his day, as well as ordinary citizens. Living a stewardship lifestyle may cause you to be "rejected" by others in today's society.

For example, saying grace before a meal in a restaurant may attract some strange looks from some. But to others it is sign that God is alive!

Our Sick

Please pray for our parishioners who are seriously ill or hospitalized: Pat Blake, Dominic Centorbi, Andrew Chavez, Maria Chinchilla, Karen Culver, Kathleen Elbersson, Ann Sullivan Kay, Josephine Marino, Donald Miriani, Bonnie McKenna, Mary Myers, Jeanne Noto, David Schumacker, Matthew Elias, George Bucec, Scott Nedoff, Emilie Kasper, Arthur Stoyshin, Anna Noto Billings, Vilma Rivers, Vilma Marone, Eileen O'Brien, Martha Luna, Dan Urbiel, Dina Engels, Cheryl Lapensee, Darby O'Toole, Lou Rondini, Liz Linne, Donna Barnes, Mike Corrion, Betty Greenia, Bill Grogan and Graham McGivern

Our Dead

A funeral liturgy was celebrated by Fr. Pelc on Monday, October 2nd for **William Sklut**, age 83.

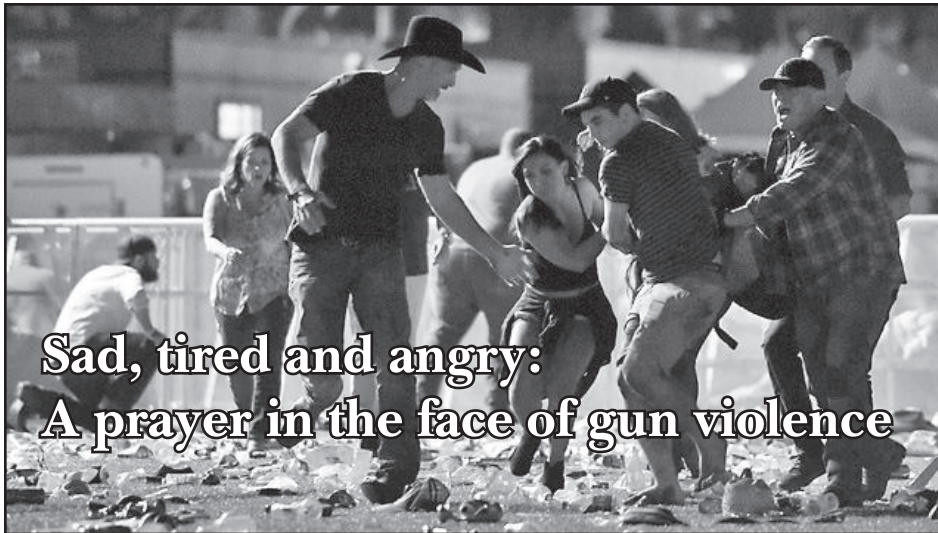
William "Bill" grew up on the east side of Detroit and attended St. Elizabeth School. He met his first wife, Gail and they raised a family of six children. He started a plumbing business and his sons later joined him. He was still working up to two weeks ago. Bill enjoyed hunting, and spending time with "many" at a cabin in Posen and cottage in Port Sanilac. Gail passed away in 1993 and then he met Maureen in Posen. They married and travelled together in their "big blue bus" (van).

Bill was predeceased by his wives, Gail and Maureen and his daughter Laura. He is survived by his children, Charlotte, Jennifer, Greg, James, Joseph and William. He will be missed by his 7 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

A funeral liturgy was celebrated by Fr. Pelc on Friday, October 6th for **Beverly Kummer**, age 84.

Bev grew up in Detroit along with her 4 sisters. She met and married Donald and they raised their family in the Grosse Pointe area. She had a great spirit and was once a member of the St. Ambrose Players. Bev enjoyed cooking Lebanese dinners for her family.

Bev was predeceased by her husband, Donald. She is survived by her children, Daniel, Mary, Dennis, Donald Jr., Dean, David, Evie and Christine. She will be missed by her 16 grandchildren and the rest of her family and friends.



Sad, tired and angry: A prayer in the face of gun violence

Almighty God, I come before you, once again, after another shooting. I am sad, God. So I ask you to receive into your loving care the souls of those who were killed, to care for those who were wounded or hurt in any way, to console the family members and friends of those who died or were wounded, to strengthen the hands of the rescue workers, medical professionals and caregivers. I pray too for the shooter, as I must as a Christian.

All this makes me inexpressibly sad, God. But I know that the sadness I feel is your sadness. It is the same sadness your son expressed when he wept over the death of his friend Lazarus. I know that the sadness I feel is your sadness.

I am tired, God. I'm tired of the unwillingness to see this as an important issue. I'm tired of those in power who work to prevent any real change. I'm tired of those who say that gun violence can't be reduced. All this makes me tired.

But I know that the tiredness I feel is your tiredness. It's the same tiredness that Jesus felt after his own struggles against injustice that led him to fall asleep on the boat with his disciples.

I am angry, God. I'm angry at the seeming powerlessness of our community to prevent this. I'm angry at the selfish financial interests who block change. I'm angry that these shootings happen at all.

But I know that this anger is your anger. It's the same anger Jesus felt when he overturned the tables in the Temple, angry that anyone would be taken advantage of in any way. Help me see these feelings as the way that you move me to act.

Help me see in these emotions your own desire for change. Help me see in these feelings your moving me to act.

Help me see in these reactions your pushing me to do something.

Because I know this is the way you move people to action. And I know that you desire action. For Jesus did not stand by while people were being hurt. He plunged into their lives.

So help me to answer these questions:

How can I help?

How can I fight against gun violence?

How can I urge my political leaders to enact change?

How can I help people understand that this is an issue about life?

I am sad over the loss of life, tired of excuses for the loss of life, and angry that we are paralyzed by the loss of life. Turn my sadness into compassion. Turn my tiredness into advocacy. Turn my sadness into compassion. Turn my tiredness into advocacy. Turn my paralysis into the freedom to act. Help me to be compassionate, to advocate and to act, as your son did, Almighty God.

By Fr. James Martin, a Jesuit, author and editor at large for [America Magazine](#).

Caribbean Relief

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) emergency staff in the Caribbean are working with Caritas partners to distribute emergency supplies in communities hit by back to back hurricanes in the Caribbean.

Ten days after Hurricane Irma struck the region, Hurricane Maria made landfall on the island of Dominica as a Category 5 storm on Monday September 18, with winds registered up to 160 mph. The Caribbean's Disaster Management Agency (CDEMA) reports that the entire island has been affected. More than 70 percent of homes have lost their roofing and hundreds of rivers have overflowed their banks, flooding towns and the capital city of Rouseau.

Caritas Antillas staff who are on the island say people are desperate for food and water. "Water and food is a priority now," said Dianne Jhariah-Robinson, from Caritas Antillas. "There is no distinction between the rich and the poor. People are in need. There are a lot of vulnerable people here who lost everything the minute their roof was ripped off" said Amanda Schweitzer, CRS' emergency coordinator, from Tortola in the British Virgin Islands.

CRS is prioritizing efforts in the Dominican Republic, Cuba and Antilles, and coordinating closely with Caritas partners, the United Nations and humanitarian actors. Emergency priorities, which will evolve based on needs on the ground, currently include emergency shelter; access to water and rehabilitation of public water supply systems; emergency living supplies; hygiene education to prevent waterborne illnesses; cleanup of cities and neighborhoods through work programs; and livelihoods recovery.

Puerto Rico also suffered tremendous, wide-spread damage. Because CRS is the U.S. Catholic Church's international humanitarian agency — assisting vulnerable people overseas — we're supporting the emergency response outside of the United States. CRS' sister organization, Catholic Charities, is aiding those affected by the hurricanes in the United States and its territories, including Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

- Donate to CRS at support.
crs.org/donate/hurricane-irma-relief.
- Donate to Catholic Charities at catholiccharitiesusa.org/efforts/disaster-operations