



ST. JANE FRANCES DE CHANTAL

38750 RYAN ROAD, STERLING HEIGHTS, MI 48310 586-977-8080 SJFPARISH.ORG



Fr. Tony Sulkowski
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FrTony@sjfparish.org
Ext. 102

In this second week of Advent, John the Baptist plays a prominent role in the life and ministry of Jesus. John is often referred to as the “precursor” of Jesus. A precursor is a forerunner, forebearer, or trailblazer. In reading the Scriptures that pertain to John the Baptist, it becomes apparent that any one of those terms would be appropriate to describe him. John was indeed a trailblazer, as he made people aware that one more powerful than himself was to come.

This Advent season affords us the opportunity to be like John and tell our stories of faith and our spiritual journey. Advent is one of those times that the Church encourages us to see how God is present in our daily lives—and, more importantly, to share those experiences of God’s presence with those people who are a part of our lives or who enter into our journeys for a short time. We all have a story to tell, and there are people who want to hear our story.

One of the materials I use every Advent season is what has become known as the “Little Blue Book.” This book contains writings and reflections by Bishop Ken Untener. These six-minute reflections allow us to center our attention on the season of Advent in the midst of our busy lives and Christmas preparations. I would encourage you to pick up a Little Blue Book in the Gathering Space and spend that six minutes a day engaging with the Scripture, the reflection, and the prayer found within.

Whatever prayer form you use throughout this season of Advent, may it prepare you to celebrate the great Feast of Christmas. This is a time for us to step back from our busy schedules and focus our attention on God and the many ways in which He reveals and shows Himself to us on a day-to-day basis.

Many people have asked, what is the meaning of “carpe diem?” It is Latin for “seize the day.” I began using the term after I saw the movie *Dead Poets Society*. It is a reminder for us to see God’s hand in our work, our play, and our interactions with each other. As we journey through this season of Advent, may we seize each day and each moment as a gift from God, knowing that He loves us and cares for us.

May we also keep in our prayers those who are serving in the military. May God protect them and their families. Let us also remember those who are away from their families this Christmas season, and pray that they may be united in spirit with their loved ones.

Bon mot: “With this hope, therefore, let our souls be bound to him who is faithful to his promises and righteous in his judgments.”
—St. Clement I, Letter to the Corinthians, c 95.

Carpe Diem,
Fr. Tony



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

December 24

at 4:00pm, 6:00pm, or Midnight (with 11:30pm Music Prelude)

December 25

at 9:00am or 11:30am (no 4:00pm Saturday Mass)

Video Mass will also be available on sjfparish.org.



FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Our parish will celebrate this Mass on:

Tuesday, December 7, 2020 at 7:00pm

& Wednesday, December 8, 2021 at 8:00am.

Video Mass for this solemnity will also be available on sjfparish.org on Wednesday morning.

DECEMBER 5, 2021

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:00pm
Sunday 9:00am & 11:30am

Weekday Masses

Tuesday 7:00pm
Wednesday & Thursday 8:00am

Holy Day Masses As Announced

Confession

Tuesday 5:30pm

Rosary

Tuesday 6:00pm

OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday

9:00am—1:00pm & 4:30pm—8:00pm

Tuesday

2:00pm—8:00pm

Saturday

3:00pm—5:00pm

Sunday

10:00am—12:30pm

PARISH HAPPENINGS

Monday, December 6, 2021

9:00am Panera

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

5:30pm Confession

6:00pm Rosary

7:00pm Immaculate Conception Mass

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

8:00am Immaculate Conception Mass

9:30am Needlecrafters

6:00pm Needlecrafters

7:00pm Choir Practice

Thursday, December 9, 2021

8:00am Mass

9:00am Swiffers Team #2

6:30pm K of C General Mtg.

Friday, December 10, 2021

Parish Office closed.

Saturday, December 11, 2021

4:00pm Mass

Sunday, December 12, 2021

9:00am Mass

10:00am RCIA

10:00am Cantor Practice

11:30am Mass



Michael Novak

Faith Formation & Youth Ministry

MNovak@sjfparish.org

Ext. 108

TODAY'S READINGS

Baruch 5:1-9

Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

Luke 3:1-6

EXPLAINING THE GOSPEL VERSE

Adapted from sermons4kids.com.

Christmas is coming. What an exciting time of year. It is often a time when company comes over. Maybe it is your grandparents who will come for Christmas, or perhaps a favorite aunt or uncle. I love it when company comes, don't you? I love it, but it also means that there is a lot of work to do. We wouldn't want company to come and find our house in a mess, would we? No way! We have to mop the floors, vacuum the carpet, dust the furniture, clean the bathrooms, and make sure the beds are all made and that there are no dirty clothes laying around.

In our gospel today, we hear about a man named John who went into the country around the Jordan River preaching and telling people to prepare for the coming of the Lord. When John told people to prepare for the coming of the Lord, he didn't mean that they should go home and sweep the floor, pick up their toys, and make their beds. He meant that they should prepare their hearts. How? By being sorry for their sins and turning toward God. When they did this, John would baptize them in the Jordan River. That is how he got the name "John the Baptist."

ACTIVITIES

Blindfold "Sense" Test: Be daring this Second Sunday of Advent. Have a parent blindfold you and put different items in front of you so you can guess what they are: some to touch, some to smell, some to listen to, and some to even taste. Then take your blindfold off and play "I spy" to use the sense of sight. See how many items you get right. We use our senses to know the world around us, and we can use them this Advent (and all throughout the year) to pay better attention to God and to know what he wants us to do.

Advent Cleaning: Help clean around the house. Afterward, say a prayer and talk to God. In this way, you are not only cleaning for the Christmas season around the house, but helping to keep your heart clean, as well.

SONG

Prepare the Way of the Lord by Concordia Publishing House (on YouTube)

PRAYER

Dear God, make our hearts clean so that we will be ready for the return of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. In His name we pray. Amen.

GROW IN FAITH DURING THE SEASON OF ADVENT!

As we proceed through the season of Advent, we encourage you to engage in the online formational resources provided by our parish!

Tune into a new episode of the Digital Music Series each week as our parish music ministry leads us through worship music fit for Advent. Listen online this Wednesday at sjfparish.org/digitalmusicseries.

Then, come along on The Way of Faith as we explore the theological virtues—the gifts from God that lead us to embrace a close relationship with Him. Our second episode, "Faith," will be available online this Sunday, December 5, 2021 at sjfparish.org/thewayoffaith.



Laurie Hall
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 Ext. 104

It is my hope that you have taken advantage of the *Sunday by Sunday* Advent resource available on sjfparish.org. This is a resource I use year-round for those seeking to join the

Catholic faith. Within this publication are wonderful reflections on the readings, helping us to make the connections between the Old and New Testament Scriptures and leading to a better understanding of the words and teachings of Jesus. The first Sunday of Advent issue provided a short reflection on the importance of prayer. The writer shares that praying “is not just saying prayers. Praying expresses our attitude toward and relationship with God and one another.” I recommend you read that column during your Advent preparations; I think you will find it valuable!

In this Second Sunday of Advent, it is likely that you have a long checklist of things that you need to do before Christmas. Is “repentance for the forgiveness of sins” on that list? This is exactly what John the Baptist called for in preparation for the Lord’s coming. As we prepare a place for the Lord to be born into our lives, let us repent of the wrongs we have done or failed to do and seek forgiveness for our sins. The beautiful sacrament of Reconciliation is available here **each Tuesday from 5:30pm—6:30pm**; there is also an Advent Reconciliation Service at our parish **on Monday, December 13th at 6:00pm**.

Wednesday, December 8th is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Patronal Feast Day of the U.S. and a holy day of obligation. Our Mass schedule is below. Mary’s preparation for Christ’s birth can be a model for us during Advent. Can we prepare as if we had Christ within us, waiting to be born into the world? Like Mary, may we be instruments of grace, giving new birth to the Lord in today’s world, for the Lord is within us.

We need your help to bring the beauty of the Christmas season to our worship space! Would you like to help decorate the Worship and Gathering spaces for Christmas? Last year we found a new way to decorate. If you have time during the week to come and decorate a tree or help with flowers or other Christmas decorations, please email me at LHall@sjfparish.org or call 586-977-8080. We have something for everyone!

2021 ADVENT WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass (Holy Day of Obligation)

Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at 7:00pm & Wednesday, December 8, 2021 at 8:00am
 (Video Mass also available)

Advent Reconciliation at St. Jane Frances de Chantal

Monday, December 13, 2021 at 6:00pm

Eucharistic Adoration with Recitation of Divine Praises

Tuesday, December 14, 2021 from 1:00pm—6:30pm

Angels & Inspiration/Judelaire's Concert

Thursday, December 16, 2021 at 7:00pm

Divine Mercy Prayers

Saturday, December 18, 2021 at 4:45pm

Advent Candle Sets for Home Use

Available in the Parish Office for a suggested donation of \$5/set.

Oplatki Bread, “Little Blue Books” for Advent, & Alternate Advent Reflection Books:

Waiting in Wondrous Expectation by Sr. Janet Schaeffler, OP
 & *Awaken to New Light* by S. James Meyer

Available in the Gathering Space for a suggested donation of \$1/each.

SCRIPTURE READINGS WEEK OF DEC. 5, 2021

Sunday

2nd Sunday of Advent

Bar 5:1-9

Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6

Phil 1:4-6, 8-11

Lk 3:1-6

Monday

St. Nicholas, Bishop

Is 35:1-10

Ps 85:9ab & 10, 11-12, 13-14

Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday

*Memorial of St. Ambrose,
 Bishop & Doctor of the Church*

Is 40:1-11

Ps 96:1-2, 3 & 10ac, 11-12, 13

Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday

*Solemnity of the
 Immaculate Conception
 of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

Gn 3:9-15, 20

Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4

Eph 1:3-6, 11-12

Lk 1:26-38

Thursday

St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin

Is 41:13-20

Ps 145:1 & 9, 10-11, 12-13ab

Mt 11:11-15

Friday

Our Lady of Loreto

Is 48:17-19

Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6

Mt 11:16-19

Saturday

St. Damasus I, Pope

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11

Ps 80:2ac & 3b, 15-16, 18-19

Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday

3rd Sunday of Advent

Zep 3:14-18a

Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6

Phil 4:4-7

Lk 3:10-18

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OFFERTORY INFORMATION NOVEMBER 21, 2021

Registered Families:	1,365
Envelopes Returned:	199
Amount Offered:	\$6,886.00
Loose Offering:	\$717.00
Online Giving Contributors:	102
Online Contributions:	\$3,524.00
Total Offerings:	\$11,127.00
2020 Budgeted Offertory:	\$11,786.00
Actual Offertory:	\$11,127.00
Difference:	—\$659.00

Thank you to those who continue to donate; your contributions help us continue operations during the pandemic. To sign up for online giving, visit sjfparish.org/onlinegiving.

RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT COLLECTION

The Religious Retirement Collection will be taken up next weekend, December 11-12, 2021.

The envelope for this collection is included in this bulletin.

If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office by phone at 586-977-8080.

Thank you for your generosity!

WAYS TO PRAY AS A FAMILY DURING THE ADVENT SEASON

Written by Tara Stenger. Adapted from unleashthegospel.org.

Advent is the beginning of our new liturgical year, so it is a great time to start building new habits or to revisit habits you've already made. Advent is a time of waiting and expecting. Advent, roughly translated, means "coming." We are preparing for Christ's coming. People often think Advent means preparing for Christmas—when Jesus first came into the world—but it also marks an opportunity to prepare for when He comes again.

What are we doing as families to bring us closer to God?

Prayer is the place to begin. Whether you pray regularly as a family or are just starting this practice, there is always an opportunity to grow closer to God.

The beauty of our Catholic faith is that there is a variety of prayer styles. Each member of your family may have a particular style that draws them closer to the Lord—devotions, journaling, adoration, daily Mass, music, art, meditation, and so on. Advent offers specific opportunities to draw us closer to God through the types of prayer unique to the season—times of silence, the O Antiphons, a Jesse Tree, and the Advent wreath.

The form of prayer you prefer is not as important as the acts of prayer you do. The season of life you are in, your family schedule, and other factors may influence how and when you pray together. Listen to God and ask him what he is asking your family to do in this season of Advent.

What are some ways to do this?

Listen to what your needs are and what the best movement is for your family. You may wish to have an involved prayer experience at bedtime, but that might not work if everyone is grumpy at that time because they are overtired. Consider when your family has energy and excitement to try a new or more involved prayer experience.

Use different prayer resources. These will help you learn new prayer styles as well as explore Scripture. *52 Sundays*, *The Little Blue Book*, or *Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers* can each help your family grow closer to one another and the Lord during Advent and beyond.

Pray together. Try praying this simple prayer together each day of Advent:

Heavenly Father, help direct our thoughts and actions toward you, allowing us to imitate those who helped share Jesus with the world. May we be open to your will, just as Mary was when you asked her to be the mother of your Son. Open our eyes and our hearts to "prepare the way of the Lord" in our home and beyond. Amen.

Want to read more? This article is available in full at unleashthegospel.org.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE

	Tuesday Dec. 7, 2021	Wednesday Dec. 8, 2021	Thursday Dec. 9, 2021	Saturday Dec. 11, 2021	Sunday Dec. 12, 2021
	7:00pm Mass	8:00am Mass	8:00am Mass	4:00pm Mass	9:00am Mass 11:30am Mass
Sacristan	Brian Finn	John Martin	Judy Taylor	Mary Wolf	MaryAnn Webb Dan Rys
Lector	Eileen Clase	Annette Mobley	Barb Milczynski	Linda Smith	John Martin John Czarski

2021 GIVING TREE

“Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.”
(Mt 25:40)

We invite you to join our annual Advent Giving Tree project and share your blessings with those less fortunate, especially during these challenging times.

As many things are now, the Giving Tree will continue to be organized in a way to ensure the health and safety of all those involved.

We will not be able to collect toys, clothing, or other items. We ask that donations be made in the form of **gift cards or cash.** We will distribute donations to the organizations we support. The organizations will then obtain the items they need to provide a Christmas celebration for those they serve.

Gift cards are needed in **\$10, \$20, and \$30** amounts. You are welcome to donate as many gift cards as you wish. Gift cards are requested for **Kroger, Meijer, Walmart, and Target, as well as prepaid Visa cards or MasterCards.** **Cash** donations may be made in any amount (checks payable to St. Jane Frances de Chantal Parish).

Please enclose your donation in an envelope and label it “Giving Tree.”

Donations can be placed in the Advent Giving Tree donation box in the Gathering Space or brought to the Parish Office during office hours.

The deadline for donations is **next Sunday, December 12, 2021.**

We hope you will consider participating. Your spirit of generosity will make Christmas special for so many in need.

This year, we are hoping to support the following organizations. They support diverse needs both within our parish and beyond:

Children of families served by **St. Vincent de Paul**

Mary’s Children Family Center for brain injury recovery

St. Aloysius/Franciscan Ministries “neighborhood ministry” to the homeless, working poor, and seniors in Detroit

St. Vincent de Paul archdiocesan ministry to prisoners and newly-released inmates

Turning Point shelter for domestic violence victims and survivors in Macomb county

McWARM warming center, a gathering place for the homeless in Macomb county

St. Leo’s Soup Kitchen, serving the homeless in Detroit

The Good Eggs Foundation, meeting the basic needs of children and their families in the Detroit area.

For more information, visit sjfparish.org/givingtree or call 586-977-8080.

RECONCILIATION DAY AT SS. CYRIL & METHODIUS

On **Monday, December 20, 2021**, the parish of Saints Cyril and Methodius will hold a “Christmas Confession Day” where the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available **from 10:00am—12:00pm** and again **from 6:00pm—9:00pm.**

There will be many priests available for confession. If your schedule doesn't permit you to attend the Advent Reconciliation opportunity here at our parish **on December 13, 2021 at 6:00pm**, you may wish to take advantage of this opportunity available right down the street.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

On **January 2, 2021**, the Red Cross will be hosting a blood drive **by appointment only.** Temperature checks will be conducted at the door, and a limited number of people will be allowed inside at the same time. Register online at redcrossblood.org.

Baptism

The community of **St. Jane Frances de Chantal** welcomes into our parish family the following children who were baptized by Fr. Tony Sulkowski on Sunday, November 21, 2021:



Andrew Peter Pratt

Parents: Kyle & Kelly Pratt
Godfather: Ryan Peterson
Godmother: Elissa Bogosian



Eva Rayne Kerr

Parents: John & Kimberly Kerr
Christian Witness: Kenneth Hunter
Godmother: Jessica Scopis

ARMED SERVICES PRAYER LIST

Robert Bain, *Army*
 Nicholas Brosowski, *Army*
 Chris Burley, *Navy*
 Shaun Chaplin, *Air Force*
 Alexander J. Hendzell, *Marines*
 Louis B. Kasper III, *Coast Guard*
 Elijah Kuefler, *Navy*
 Carmen LaForest, *Navy*
 Matthew McDowell, *Air Force*
 Cassidy Kicinski Rose, *Air Force*
 Jeremy Rzeppa, *Navy*
 Anthony Trotta, *Navy*
 Kyle Wiegand, *Army*

PRAYER LIST

Elaine Enck	Tom Sadowski
Billy Koresky	Jolly Talampas
Dallas McKim	Bob Youngert
Vivian Parker	
Judy Peterson	
Steve Sadecki	
June Sadowski	

Names added to the Prayer List remain for four weeks. Please call the Parish Office to request prayers.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 6, 2021 *No Mass*

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

7:00pm Souls in Purgatory (Serafina Shields)
 Dec. Mary M. Kreft (John Kreft)

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

8:00am For the Parishioners
 Liv. Marge Wisniewski (Family)

Thursday, December 9, 2021

8:00am To End Abortion (Serafina Shields)

Friday, December 10, 2021 *No Mass*

Saturday, December 11, 2021

4:00pm Dec. Fatima Habacon (Francisco Habacon)
 Dec. Carol Trinity Miller (Robert & Frances Kraft)
 Dec. Alex Hetrick (53rd Anniv.) (Children)
 Dec. Greg Corby (Eric & Wendy Rzeppa)
 Dec. Bauer Family (Scally Family)
 Dec. Paddy Mullin (1st Anniv.) (Family)
 Dec. Dolores Whitehouse (Judy Taylor)
 Dec. Bill Smythe (Judy & the Kids)
 Dec. Mark & Zefi Papaj (Papaj Family)
 Dec. Al Vichunas (Sepanik Family)
 Liv. Serena Mizzi (Dorothy Weglarz)

Sunday, December 12, 2021

9:00am For the Parishioners

11:30am Dec. Stella Lobaza (Pat Mandziuk)
 Dec. Carolyn DiMinno (Pat Mandziuk)
 Dec. Joan Castleberry (Mr. & Mrs. Chinn)

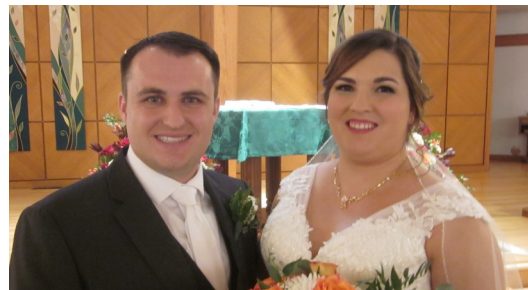
CONGRATULATIONS!

The community of St. Jane Frances de Chantal gives congratulations and blessings to Michael Miceli and Alisha David, who received the Sacrament of Marriage on November 21, 2021.

Witnesses: Joseph Miceli & Katelynn Davidson

Sponsor Couple: Eric & Wendy Rzeppa

May God bless you both!



IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS!
THE JUDELAIRES IN CONCERT AT OUR PARISH ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16TH AT 7:00PM
NO TICKETS REQUIRED. PLEASE WEAR A FACE MASK WHEN ATTENDING.

OUR MISSION

"Nourished by God's Word & the Eucharist, we strive to be a welcoming Catholic community dedicated to living and proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

NEW TO OUR PARISH?

Would you like to join the St. Jane Frances de Chantal parish family? Become a parishioner! You may register anytime in the Parish Office or online at sjfparish.org/joinus. We would love to have you!

ST. JANE FRANCES de CHANTAL

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Karen Graziano

Evening Support Staff

586-977-8080

Hosie King

Maintenance Staff

586-977-8080

SACRAMENTS CHILDREN'S BAPTISM

Do you have a child you would like to have baptized? Please call the Parish Office to make arrangements.

RECONCILIATION

Available Tuesdays at 5:30pm.

MARRIAGE

Congratulations! Please contact our Parish Office at least six months prior to your desired wedding date to begin preparations.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Contact the Parish Office to schedule one-time or regular visits.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Are you interested in joining the Catholic Church? Contact Laurie Hall to begin the process. Welcome home!



Jeff & Lila Mandziuk & Family Parishioners

*Our Family is here to assist
Your Family in your time of need.*

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 Michael Baranski Family
 Joseph Beaugard
 Bielinski Family
 Blacker & Bartz Families
 Bonk & Szymanski Families
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 Dennis Briston
 Broski & Schaff Families
 Brower & Ficaro Families
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 Caradonna & Campo Families
 Nancy Ann Cardamone
 Fr. James Challancin
 Coussens & Petracci Families
 Desmond Cushing
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 Jesus & Mercedes Garcia
 James Golombek
 Norbert & Emily Golonka
 Henry & Irene Grifka
 Gurney Family
 Donald Herppich
 Kay Herrmann
 Hughes & Przedwojewski Families
 John Kapeluch Family
 Richard H. & Richie Karasinski
 Father Mike Kazer
 Anthony & Jane Klik
 Jean Koscielski
 Bernard Kosnik
 John & Dorothy Kotulis
 Peter & Elizabeth Kotulis
 Ron Kotulis
 Sandi Kotulis
 Anthony Krull Family
 Frances Kulwicki
 Kulwicki & Spellman Families
 James Kwapis

John Kwapis Family
 James & Dolores LaRocca
 John & Marisa LaRocca
 Joseph & Helen Levenski
 Joann Lichocki
 Stanley & Dolores Lichocki
 Maguran & Baglama Families
 Raymond J. Mandziuk
 Mandziuk & Skonieczny Families
 Richard Marshall
 Thomas & Rose Medved
 Clara & Stanley Milczynski
 Sr. Alice Miller
 Liz & Pam Miller Family
 Conrad Modlinski
 Harry & Lottie Musialowski
 George Muylaert Family
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 Tuan Nguyen Family
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 Brian Oakes
 Kenneth Oakes
 Jack O'Connell
 Marsha A. Olson
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 Leandre & Vina Page

Parrott Family & Friends
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 Rudzinski & Bartkowski Families
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 Michael Warchock
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