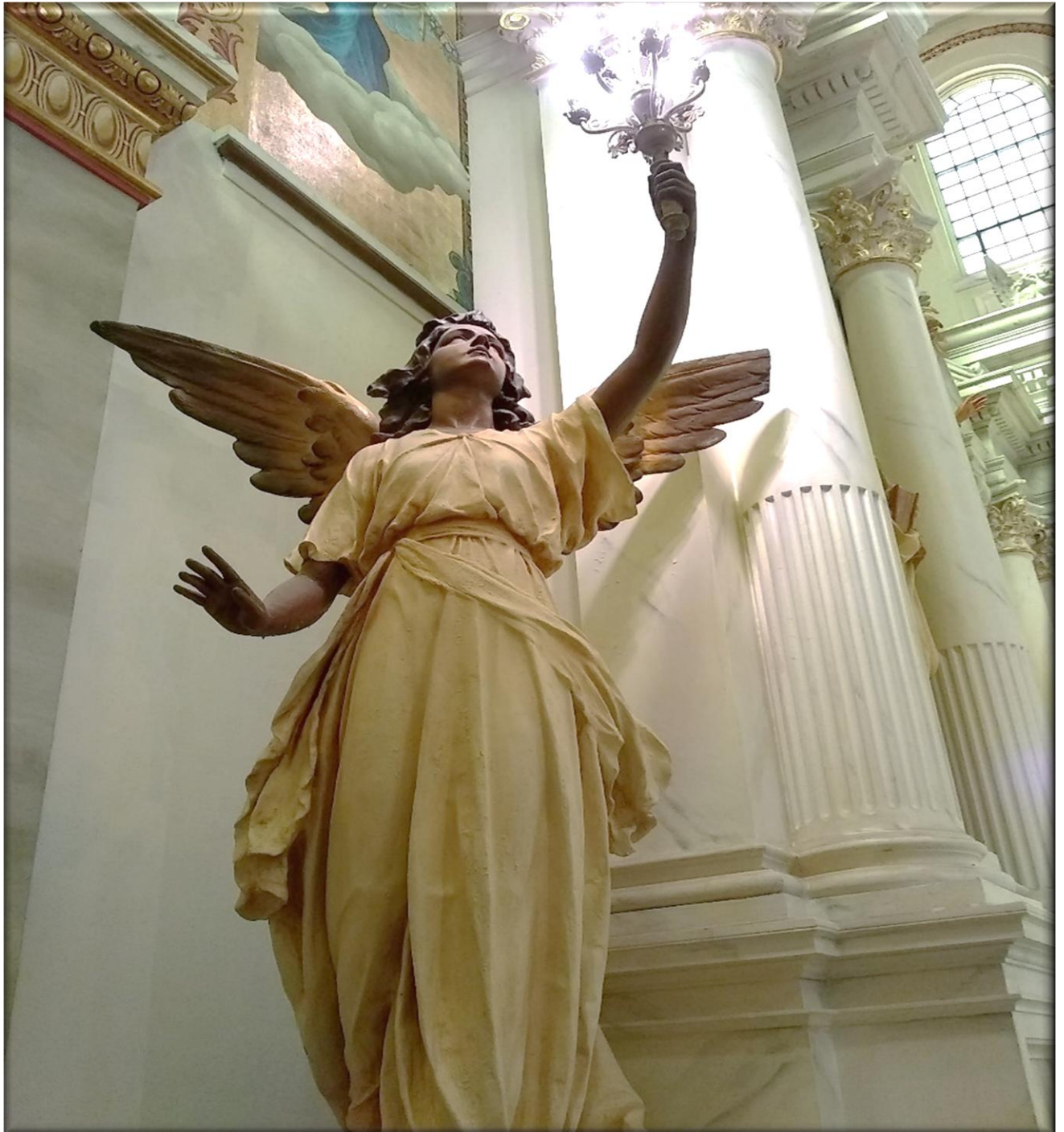

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church
THE VIGIL

Sunday, December 14, 2025 (Year A)

3rd Sunday of Advent – *Gaudete Sunday (Joy)*



Thoughts for Today's Readings "With a Prayer..."

Sunday Food for Your Soul

3rd Sunday of Advent

Dear Friends and Parishioners of Our Eastside Family,

Last weekend, within my homily, I made a reference to one of our Catholic Church's seven sacraments, namely, the Sacrament of Reconciliation ("Confession"). I thought it'd be fitting to add some personal reflections about this Sacrament in this bulletin as we continue to move along in Advent.

This Sacrament can afford us a beautiful and consoling moment offered by our Church to experience—within a conversation with a priest—the gracious mercy of our God in Jesus Christ. Through this sacrament we receive the assurance of complete pardon and forgiveness of whatever sinfulness we acknowledge and confess.

Surely it's humbling to admit mistakes, faults, and offenses against God and others—that is, anything that fails in love—yet such an admission is the very pathway to the sacrament's forgiveness in Christ. As Jesus often said when offering mercy: "Go on your way, and sin no more."

In general terms, when I was young, the image of God was more that of an ever-watchful judge. Today, generally speaking, the image is more of an ever-watchful and loving companion, friend, or parent. How wonderful! However, sometimes today's image can render God so benign that we could feel God simply dismisses our sinfulness or says, "your sins are so minor, so don't sweat the small stuff." Yet, as St. John states "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves." God loves us too much to have us become unreflective or comfortable with our sinfulness; rather, Our Lord calls us out of the darkness, and into the light of grace through the kindness of his mercy.

When we, in a private and sincere way acknowledge our sin out of love for God and ask for mercy, God does not hesitate to hear us. Yet, at the same time, the Sacrament of Reconciliation is a way to make our individual sorrow even more of a relational, social, human, and clearly ecclesial experience through the instrumentality of the priest who forgives in the name of God. What an available and healing moment to know the assurance of being forgiven in a very personal manner.

What to do? Ask a priest to hear our Confession and proceed in this simple manner: 1) acknowledge our sins, 2) listen to any comments or advice 3) recite an act of contrition (and complete the penance the priest may give us, possibly right after, if it's a prayer or, if another penance, then within a short time) and 4) welcome and receive the following words of absolution: "By the ministry of the Church, may God grant you pardon and peace. And I absolve you from your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen."

What a gift! What a grace, as St. Paul says: "Where sin abounds, grace abounds more." Clearly it abounds in this Sacrament of Reconciliation. And all of it is sealed in absolute confidentiality.

Fr. Richard

Sunday Community Dinners... As one of our most important ministries to our members and neighbors, we have been blessed. We are in need of more. If you and your group would like to sponsor a meal, please contact Georgia Kingsley via the rectory. **Today Sunday, December 14, 2025: The Corner Table; December 21, 2025: Angie Kadowaki & Family; December 28, 2025: NO MEAL (Holiday); January 4, 2026: SPONSOR NEEDED; January 11, 2026: SPONSOR NEEDED; January 18, 2026: Parish Council; January 25, 2026: St. Bonaventure Secular Franciscans; February 15, 2025: Kim & Steve Llorens**

Nativity Pantry News: We are so grateful for your continued support of the pantry. This week, we need **Christmas Candy, Hot Chocolate Packets, and Tuna Fish**. We are preparing for the Christmas boxes of food too. Again, we thank you for all you do to help us.



Joy

"Lord God, may we, your people, who look forward to the birthday of Christ, experience the joy of salvation and celebrate that feast with love and thanksgiving. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

**PRAY FOR THE
HEALING PRESENCE**

Jean-Marie Allion
 Anderson and Miller Family
 Paul Andreovich
 Kathy Ayoub
 Mary Canaday
 Jane Colombo
 Kyle Duker
 Jim Dutkiewicz
 Doris Franklin
 Anna Grabowski
 Nancy Hayes
 Carol Herman
 Jim Howard
 Evelyn Hughes
 Bertha Jackson-Hyde
 Michelle Koss
 Steve Lamendola
 Michael Martin
 Jacqueline Morant
 Gloria Parham
 Ronald Parham
 Vertis Park, Sr.
 Earlene Park-Williams
 Orlando Richardson
 Aaron Scott
 Cherise Sweeney
 Jonathan Taylor
 Tommy Traylor
 Anna Tyler
 Guillerma Villanueva
 Eldora White

Please call the rectory at 313-331-0253 to let us know when a name should be added to or removed from the list. Names will stay on the list for 3 months, but can be continued if we are notified of the wishes to do so.

MASS INTENTIONS

December 14, 2025

**Kevin Scully
 Fred Murphy
 Patrick Cunniffe**

December 21, 2025

**George Zigas
 Alexander Grabowski
 Elfrieda Samuel**

December 28, 2025

**Steven and Catherine
 Bogotaitis
 Kevin Scully
 Madalere Mannino**

TODAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 35: 1-6a, 10
(Here is Your God)

Psalms 146: 6-7, 8-9a, 9bc-10
(The Lord Our Savior)

James 5: 7-10
(The Lord's Coming is at Hand)

Isaiah 61: 1
(Glad Tidings)

Matthew 11: 2-11
(Effects of the Lord's Coming)

**The Holy Father's Intentions
 for the Month of
 December 2025**
For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon., Dec. 15: Numbers 24: 2-7, 15-17; Psalm 25: 4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9; Psalms 85: 8; Matthew 21: 23-27

Tues., Dec. 16: Zephaniah 3: 1-2, 9-13; Psalm 34: 2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23; Matthew 21: 28-32

Wed., Dec. 17: Genesis 49: 2, 8-10; Psalm 72: 1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17; Matthew 1: 1-17

Thurs., Dec. 18: Jeremiah 23: 5-8; Psalm 72: 1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Matthew 1: 18-25

Fri., Dec. 19: Judges 13: 2-7, 24-25a; Psalm 71: 3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Luke 1: 5-25

Sat., Dec. 20: Isaiah 7: 10-14; Psalm 24: 1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Luke 1: 26-38

Sun., Dec. 21: Isaiah 7: 10-14; Psalm 24: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Romans 1: 1-7; Matthew 1: 23; Matthew 1: 18-24

STEWARDSHIP MINUTE

"You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand." JAMES 5:8

Patience is another one of those things many of us struggle with. We want things to go according to our plan and our schedule; we like things to be convenient. Any change brings anxiety and fear. Through daily prayer God reveals to us what He wants us to do with the gifts He has given us. We are able to better align ourselves with God's will and His plan, which is far better than anything we can come up with on our own.

**COLLECTION INFO
 12-07-2025**

Collection \$2,436.58
 Online \$1,557.00

TOTAL \$3,993.58

Religious Education & Faith Formation

Welcome Families! We look forward to walking with your families as we grow together in understanding and living our Catholic faith.

Our classes support the spiritual growth of children through:

- Age-appropriate faith lessons
- Preparation for Sacraments
- Scripture stories, prayer, and hands-on activities
- Building a foundation rooted in Catholic tradition and community

During Advent, a time of joyful preparation as we await the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. We invite families to:

- Light the Advent wreath or participate with an Advent countdown paper chain
- Read Scripture together
- Practice small acts of kindness
- Prepare joyfully for the birth of Jesus
- Spend intentional time together in prayer

Advent reminds us that Christ is at the center of our celebrations, our households, and our lives.

Key Dates:

Please make sure you meet with D'Zarea, Alexis, and Kamecia to make sure we have your child's information for the giving tree. Gifts are due by Sunday, Dec. 21, 2025.

We will be practicing for our Christmas Eve program: Dec. 7th, 14th, 21st right after Mass. Christmas Eve Mass is 8pm at St. Charles. Please see me if you want to be a part of the program.

Next Parent/Family Faith Formation meeting will be Sunday, Dec. 28, 2025, at 10:45am before Mass.

Interested in Registering?

If you would like to sign up for Religious Education classes, please contact: Barbara Taylor

Parish Nurse News and Notes December

2025 Keeping Healthy Hands During the Holiday Season

As we enter the busy month of December, our hands are everywhere—preparing meals, wrapping gifts, greeting loved ones, and serving in our church community. It's a joyful season, but also a time when colds, flu, and other infections spread easily. One of the simplest and most effective ways to protect ourselves and those around us is **good hand washing**.

Why it matters:

Clean hands help prevent the spread of germs that cause respiratory and stomach illnesses. Many infections are passed when we touch shared surfaces—doorknobs, pews, hymnals—and then touch our faces. Hand washing interrupts that cycle.

When to wash:

- Before eating or preparing food
- After using the restroom
- After coughing, sneezing, or blowing your nose
- After visiting someone who is ill
- When you return home from church, school, or shopping

How to wash well:

Use warm water and soap, scrub all parts of your hands for **20 seconds** (the time it takes to pray the Lord's Prayer or sing "Happy Birthday"), rinse thoroughly, and dry completely. When soap and water aren't available, use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

As we celebrate the light of Christ this Advent and Christmas season, let's keep our hands clean and our hearts open—caring for our health and for one another.

Blessings on a healthy and hopeful December! God Bless.

Mary Catherine Wright RN
Parish Nurse

Detroit Eastside Family of Parishes Advent Through New Year's Day Mass Schedule



DETROIT EASTSIDE FAMILY OF PARISHES

Christmas Mass through New Year's Day Schedules – 2025

****There are NO Masses in the Family on Friday, 12/26/2025****

Nativity of Our Lord

Immaculate Conception Mass (12/8/25) 6pm
Christmas Eve Mass (12/24/25) 5pm
Christmas Day Mass (12/25/25) 9:30am
New Year's Day Mass (01/01/26) 9am

5900 McClellan
Detroit, MI 48213
313-922-0033
www.nativitydetroit.org
nativityol@sbcglobal.net

Sacred Heart

Immaculate Conception Mass (12/8/25) 5pm
Christmas Eve Mass (12/24/25) 9pm
Christmas Day Mass (12/25/25) 9am
New Year's Eve Mass (12/31/25) 9pm
New Year's Day Mass (01/01/26) 9am
1000 Eliot St., Detroit, MI 48207
313-831-1356

sacredheartdetroit.com

St. Elizabeth

Immaculate Conception Mass (12/8/25) 5pm
(with Sacred Heart)
3138 E. Canfield St., Detroit, MI 48207
313-921-9225
www.stelizabethdetroit.org

St. Jude

Christmas Eve Mass (12/24/25) 4pm
Christmas Day Mass (12/25/25) 10:30am
15889 Seven Mile E., Detroit, MI 48205
313-527-0380
stjudedetroit.org

St. Augustine & St. Monica

Christmas Eve Mass (12/24/25) 12 Midnight
Christmas Day Mass (12/25/25) 10am
4151 Seminole St., Detroit, MI 48214
313-921-4107

www.saintamyparish.org

St. Charles

Immaculate Conception Mass (12/8/25) 11am
Christmas Eve Mass (12/24/25) 8pm
Christmas Day Mass (12/25/25) 11:30am
New Year's Eve Mass (12/31/25) 11pm
(party following Mass)

1491 Baldwin St., Detroit, MI 48214
313-331-0253
stcharlesdetroit.org

St. Raymond

Immaculate Conception Mass (12/8/25) 8:30am
Christmas Eve Mass (12/24/25) 4pm
Christmas Day Mass (12/25/25) 10:30am
New Year's Day Mass (01/01/2026) 10:30am
20103 Joann, Detroit, MI 48205
313-527-0525

www.straymondolgc.org

Our Lady Queen of Heaven/Good Shepherd

Christmas Eve Mass (12/24/25) 4pm
Christmas Day Mass (12/25/25) 9am
New Year's Eve Mass (12/31/25) 4pm
8200 Rolyat St., Detroit, MI 48234
313-891-4553
ourladyofgoodshepherd.org

Detroit Eastside Family Parish Information and Mass Times

St Charles Borromeo Detroit

1491 Baldwin

Detroit, MI 48214

313-331-0253

www.stcharlesborromeodetroit.org

stcharlesborromeodetroit@yahoo.com

Sunday: 11:30am

Friday: 11am in rectory

Live Stream & YouTube

Nativity of Our Lord

5900 McClellan

Detroit, MI 48213

313-922-0033

www.nativitydetroit.org

nativityol@sbcglobal.net

Sunday 9:30am

Thursday: Holy Hour 8am; Mass 9am

Live Stream and YouTube

St Augustine & St Monica

4151 Seminole

Detroit, MI 48214

313-921-4107

www.saintamparish.org

office@saintamparish.org

Sunday: 10am

Wednesday: 9am

St. Jude

15889 Seven Mile E ·

Detroit, MI 48205

313-527-0380

stjudedetroit.org

Sunday: 10:30am

Saturday: 4pm

Sacred Heart

1000 Eliot St.

Detroit, MI 48207

313-831-1356

www.sacredheartdetroit.com

info@sacredheart.com

Sunday: 8am and 10am

Tuesday: 5pm

Saturday: 5pm

St. Elizabeth

3138 E. Canfield St.

Detroit, MI 48207

313-921-9225

www.stelizabethdetroit.org

saintelizabethchurchofdetroit@gmail.com

Sunday: 12:00pm

St. Raymond – Our Lady of Good Council

20103 Joann

Detroit, MI 48205

313-527-0525

www.straymondolg.org

Sunday: 10:30am

Tuesday: 8:30am

Thursday: 8:30am

Our Lady Queen of Heaven/Good Shepherd

8200 Rolyat St.

Detroit, MI 48234

313-891-4553

ourladyofgoodshepherd.org

Sunday: 9am

Tuesday: 10:30am

Thursday: 10:30am

Friday: 10:30am

Saturday: 4pm

Event You May Be Interested In

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14TH, 2025
FOLLOWING 10AM MASS



ST. AUGUSTINE- ST. MONICA'S CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

CELEBRATE THE REASON FOR THE SEASON!

ACTIVITIES:

- Food! (\$5 Luncheon)
- Music
- Photos
- Raffles
- Arts & Crafts for kids

VENDORS:

- City Scents
- I Make Things
- Conversation Pieces
- The Cake Corner
- Images Through My Eyes
- Mike's Jewelry
- Flare Fabulous Pillows

Join us to celebrate the season, support local makers, and find that perfect holiday gift!

Immaculate Conception Masses

St. Raymond—8:30am
 St. Charles—11am
 Sacred Heart—5pm
 Nativity—6pm

St. Charles Borromeo

December 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 PGC – In-person at ST. Augustine/St. Monica – Detroit 6pm Blvd. Home Visits 10:30am	3 Bible Study In Rectory 6pm – 7pm**	4 Bible Study In Rectory 6pm – 7pm** Faith & Fellowship 4:30-7pm PGC On- Line Session 6pm	5	6 Birthday Party in Social Hall 5pm—9pm
7 2nd Sunday of Advent <u>11:30am Mass</u> Community Meal Diabetes Class	8 Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation ***Mass Schedule at top of this calendar***	9	10 Bible Study In Rectory 6pm – 7pm	11 Faith & Fellowship 4:30-7pm	12 Christmas Concert at Old St. Mary's 7pm	13
14 3rd Sunday of Advent <u>11:30am Mass</u> Community Meal Blood Pressure Screening Diabetes Class	15 PGC On- Line Session 6pm	16	17 No Bible Study tonight	18 Blvd. Ministry Christmas Party 12:30pm Faith & Fellowship 4:30-7pm	19	20
21 4th Sunday of Advent <u>11:30am Mass</u> Community Meal Church Decorating after Mass Diabetes Class	22	23	24 Christmas Eve No Bible Study tonight See Family Mass Schedule in Vigil or on Face-Book	25 Christmas Day See Family Mass Schedule in Vigil or on FaceBook	26 Kwanzaa Begins	27
28 Holy Family Mass at 11:30am <u>NO</u> Community Meal—Holiday Diabetes Class	29	30	31 No Bible Study tonight New Year's Eve Mass—11pm, Party 12 Midnight			

St Charles Borromeo

1491 Baldwin St., Detroit, MI 48214
(313) 331-0253 (Fax 313-331-4834)

St. Charles Office Hours:

Monday, 10am to 3pm
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9am to 4pm
Friday, 9am to 3pm

Pastoral Team

Fr. Francis Asomkase, SSJ, Priest in Solidum and Moderator
Fr. Richard Baumann, Priest in Solidum
Reverend Charles Nwamadi, SSJ, Priest in Solidum
Fr. David Preuss, OFM, CAP, Priest in Solidum
Deacon Joseph Jones
Edward Cotton – Mission Support Director
Rhonda Gilbert – Pastoral Associate
Joan Jacobs & Angie Kadowaki – Boulevard Ministry Ministers
Mary Catherine Wright – Parish Nurse

Council Members: Naim Edwards (Chairperson), Angela Kadawaki, Dennis Ballard (Vice-Chairperson), Patricia Ballard, Alex Grabowski, Marian Harvey (Secretary), Freddie Henry, Mary Ellen Howard, Bruce McDonald, Mikhail Perkins, Richard Preuss, Linda Simpkins

**AOD Restructuring
St. Charles Parish
Leaders**

Doris Allen
Alex Grabowski
Joan Jacobs
Bruce McDonald
Richard Preuss

**Parish Point Person of
Contact**

Rhonda Gilbert

St. Charles Mission Statement

St. Charles Borromeo, a diverse urban parish of Detroit, is rooted in Christ's Gospel and Catholic tradition. We strive to build a community of faith through education, worship, and evangelization. We are called to carry on Christ's ministry to our brothers and sisters, especially the sick and their families, the elderly, youth, and the disabled. With Mary as our example of unconditional love, we strive to welcome everyone to share joyfully in the peace, love and salvation of Jesus Christ. We acknowledge that it is the Holy Spirit who calls and empowers us, who strengthens and renews us, and who gives us the will to continue our mission, until Jesus comes.

St Charles Website: www.stcharlesdetroit.org
Email: stcharlesborromeodetroit@yahoo.com

Facebook: St. Charles Borromeo Parish - Detroit MI
YouTube: www.youtube.com/@st.charlesborromeodetroit



Online Giving

Go to the giving site at:

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stcharlesdetroit>