



CHURCH OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT

2119 STILLWATER AVE. E | 651-738-0677 | CHURCH@BLESSEDSACRAMENTSP.ORG

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2020

19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Peter said to him in reply, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. - Mt 14:28-29

Church of the Blessed Sacrament

A Whispered Invitation

This week in our home, I told my husband we need to work on using softer voices, so our four kids have to be quieter in order to hear us. It was an effort to gently work with them on their magnanimous yet boisterous voices, in order to bring a little more peace and calm to the house. Having four children is literally the most fun I've had in my life, but it comes with plenty of crosses, like trying to teach a toddler what the word whisper means. The problem is working with young minds that don't grasp the need for silence quite yet. It's something we have to curate and create in the space of our home so they can grow to understand its value.



As I've been reflecting on the state of our nation in the past weeks, I often sense that as adults we've sometimes been reverting to these same behaviors as we work out the stress of the state of the world we now live in. The loudest voices draw the most attention, even if they lack true charity or wisdom.

I find the readings this weekend so providential for this reason. The message for us is clear: God does not operate in chaos. His movement and healing can only take place in the context of a heart of faith and a willingness to find Him in the whispers and the small hidden stuff.

Elijah is our first example of this disposition of heart. As he's sheltering in a cave, God literally speaks to him to let him know that He will be visiting him so Elijah can be on the lookout. The magnificent signs that most people would feel certain are from God are simply minor distractions. Elijah knows the Lord. He isn't seduced by earthquakes and fire, yet when he hears a whisper, he knows it is God. Knowing someone enough to recognize their voice in a whisper is the level of intimacy Christ calls us to today.

That intimacy is lived out in the example of Peter in the Gospel this weekend. Much like Elijah, the apostles are given two contrasting moments on which to fix their attention — the wind and waves or the peaceful presence of Christ. When Jesus comes to them, Peter sees the hidden presence of God, like Elijah in the whisper. Peter makes his first act of faith when he says "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You." The Catechism reminds us of this when it teaches that "man is in search of God" but it is "God [who] calls man first" (Catechism of the Catholic Church 2566-2567). It is only after responding to the first call of Christ hidden in his simple presence that Peter is able to respond to the even greater grace of walking on water towards him.

Something that I've often reflected on is the fact that even though he may be filled with fear, Peter is the only apostle to actually get out of the boat. That takes massive faith. When he starts to sink, Jesus' response that he has little faith reminds me of the parable of the mustard seed. Having a little faith is often a big thing. That small act of faith, though imperfect, prepared Peter for his future calling as the head of the Church on earth. Again, by responding to Christ in the small moments, Peter is prepared for a greater destiny. *(concludes next column)*

**Saturday, August 15th is the feast of the Assumption.
We will have Mass at 9am.
The Parish Office will be closed
on Monday, August 17th.**

In many ways God is calling to us today, like Peter, to respond to His presence. The winds and waves come to us in the form of politics, riots, and disease. Yet they remain the big and loud things seeking to get our attention. Underneath it all God is speaking in a whisper, still inviting each one of us to recognize Him amidst the trials and have just a tiny bit of faith to come to Him. The challenge for us today is to quiet our hearts enough to hear this and respond. For me, this looks like deleting social media apps and immersing myself in Scripture. For others, it may mean turning off the news for a set time each day and opening the Catechism. The important thing is that we recognize that God has already revealed to us in Scripture how he comes to us: through silence, in poverty, and in unexpected ways that are not the ways of the world. Let's take back the parts of our hearts we've given away in our worry and anger and turn back to God. He has already invited us and is saying again this weekend, "come." *Angie Windnagle ©LPI*



Created to Believe: Called to Motherhood Join a group Fall 2020

Being a mom is hard and knowing you're not alone on the journey makes a huge difference! Do you sometimes wonder about who you are as a woman, wife, and mother? Do you desire strong friendships with other moms just like you? When you enter into "Created to Believe: Called to Motherhood" as part of The Cana Experience, you will more deeply know who you are in the light of your Catholic faith and be equipped with practical tools that can be applied right away in your marriage and with your children. To find a group near you and learn more about joining The Cana Experience with other mothers of young children this Fall 2020, visit canafamilyinstitute.com or contact Cathy at cathy@canafamilyinstitute.com.

Bethany House

Apply now for September 2020 – May 2021

Bethany House applications are now being accepted for September 2020 to May 2021. Bethany House is a home for women who live in community, pray together, take meals together and discern whether they are called to consecrated life. Bethany House is sponsored by the Office of Vocations and is located in Northeast Minneapolis. We are currently taking applications for women interested in Bethany House. Qualities of a good candidate for Bethany House include single women, ages 20 – 27, who are interested in dedicating a year to intentionally discerning a vocation to religious life. Please visit www.10000vocations.org for more information.



College Freshman? Meet new friends before you even arrive on campus.

As you prepare to move on to your next phase of life, don't leave your faith behind. Your college campus experience may look a bit different this fall. SPO would like to help you prepare for your first year by offering a networking opportunity with other Catholic students on your campus. By filling out this form we'll be able to place you into a group of other young men or women who also are looking for college to be everything it's meant to be. If you are someone who doesn't want to put life on pause this summer but make the most of preparing for the fall semester, then we'd love to have you. Small groups are forming now! For more information on SPO, visit spo.org

Book Discussion: He Leadeth Me by Walter Ciszek

September 9, 2020, 7 p.m., Virtual Event,

led by St. Thomas More Catholic Community

Jesuit priest, Fr. Walter Ciszek, spent 23 agonizing years in Soviet prisons and labor camps after being captured during WWII. In this book, he recalls how his utter reliance on God allowed him to endure. Read the book and join us via Zoom on September 9 for an in-depth discussion!

Registration is required on our website at: <https://www.morecommunity.org/he-leadeth-me-discussion>.

After registering for the virtual discussion, we will email you a link to join the Zoom meeting as well as a handout with questions to consider prior to the meeting.

Miriam Dinner – Save the Date!

Tuesday, September 29, 6 – 8:30 p.m., Holy Cross, Minneapolis

Archbishop Bernard A. Hebda and Father David Blume, Director of Vocations, invite women, ages 16 – 35, who are discerning consecrated life to join us for this event! Come for an evening of prayer and dinner with consecrated women sharing their vocations testimonies. Space is limited! It is typical for guests to be accompanied by their pastor, consecrated religious, or youth / campus minister. RSVP before September 24 at 10000vocations.org. Questions?

Email stpaulvocations@10000vocations.org or call the Office of Vocations at 651-962-6890.

FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

Lighting system update:

We have replaced the controls for the lighting system in the church space by a licensed electrician. The expected cost of this project will be approximately \$2,500. Thanks to some very generous donations, we have already collected \$975 to go towards this project. Thank you!

Face Masks:

Thank you all for following the Governor's statewide order requiring everyone to wear facemasks while inside of our facilities. We will maintain a modest supply of facemasks out on the Hospitality desk. We thank those who are able to make a small donation to help us offset this expense. Expect blessings.

Key Fob system update:

Work is scheduled to be completed by mid-August to change over our main entrance area to the keyless key fob system. In addition, all exterior doors are also being rekeyed as a security measure. The new key fob system will electronically track which key fob is used, and we will be able to closely monitor the issuance and usage of any key fob. We are working on the protocols on how one goes about requesting a key fob. FYI: our current system of pushing the buzzer on the exterior of the building will remain operational, and we will be able to grant building access when staff are present.

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PARISH ADMINISTRATION 651-738-0677

- Rev. Benny Mekkatt, Pastor ext. 11
- John Florin, Business Administrator ext. 10
- Joy Hoffman, Administrative Coordinator ext. 12
- Deacon Jerry Saladin.....952-607-9636

PASTORAL MINISTRY 651-738-0677

- Carol McKenna,ext. 15

FAITH FORMATION 651-738-0677

- Connie Hill, Director ext. 14

MUSIC

- Jan Meulemans, Director.....651-307-7865

PRAYER LINE

- Please call Carol McKenna.....651-492-2778

CHURCH EMAIL: Church@blessedsacramentsp.org

PARISH COUNCIL: parishcouncil@blessedsacramentsp.org

BAPTISM - Participation in the Baptism preparation program is a prerequisite for Baptism. Schedule with the Parish Office.

RECONCILIATION- Saturday 3:00-3:45pm

By appointment on other days

MATRIMONY- Make arrangements with the pastor at least six months before the date.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK - Please call the parish office if you or a family member is going to be hospitalized. Also, if you are home-bound and wish to receive the Eucharist or a friendly visit, please call the parish office.

LOW-GLUTEN HOSTS ARE AVAILABLE- Please come to the Sacristy before Mass to arrange to receive one.

- Blessed Sacrament Adoration, M-W-F 1-11pm & Th 6am-noon
- The Rosary is said just prior to all weekend Masses.

Sunday, August 9

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a/Rom 9:1-5/Mt 14:22-33

† Al & Joan Bierwerth

Parish Mass

Monday, August 10

Saint Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr

2 Cor 9:6-10/Jn 12:24-26

Tuesday, August 11

Saint Clare, Virgin

Ez 2:8-3:4/Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

Tom Carlson

Wednesday, August 12

Saint Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious

Ez 9: 1-7, 10:18-22/ Mt 18:15-20

Donna Frey and Margaret Bianconi

Thursday, August 13

Weekday/ Saint Pontian, Pope, and Hippolytus, Priest, Martyrs

Ez 12:1-12/ Mt 18:21-19:1

Karen Kirby

Friday, August 14

Saint Maximilian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr

Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63/ Mt 19:3-12

† Jerry Tasler

Saturday, August 15

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/1 Cor 15:20-27/Lk 1:39-56 (Morning Readings)

† Huey Henriksen

Sunday, August 16

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 56:1, 6-7/Rom 11:13-15, 29-32/ Mt 15:21-28

† Bernard Bearth

Parish Mass

Church of the Blessed Sacrament

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

August 9—August 16

The celebration of public Masses has resumed for a limited number of participants!

Please sign up online or call the parish office!

Other Schedule Information:

- Sacrament of Reconciliation on Saturday 3:00 - 3:45 PM in the building or call for an appointment.
- Livestream Mass—**Tuesday-Friday at Noon, Saturday at 4:00 PM and on Sunday at 9:00 am** on Facebook or watch later on our You Tube channel link via our website.

FINANCE

Gifts of Treasure

July 25/26, 2020

Sunday Envelopes & Plate:	\$ 3,655.00
Other:	\$ 200.00
Adoration Chapel:	\$ 25.00
Additional Operational Income:	\$ 400.00
Total :	\$ 4,280.00

August 1/2, 2020

Sunday Envelopes & Plate:	\$ 4,239.50
Monthly EFT:	\$ 5,025.00
Summertime Offering Slump:	\$ 100.00
Other:	\$ 55.00
Additional Operational Income:	\$ 85.00
Total :	\$ 9,504.50

Marriage Encounter

These last months have been incredibly difficult on all of us and some marriages have suffered! Please let us help you to find enrichment, joy, and hope in your relationship! Register for the August 29-30 Marriage Encounter. Weekends are held at Mt Olivet Conference and Retreat Center in Farmington. Visit www.marriages.org for additional information or call 651.454.3238.

*Marriage
Encounter*



Stay connected this summer

. Visit our **NEWLY DESIGNED WEBSITE** to be evangelized and informed.

✝ Take advantage of our parish's subscription to FORMED.org. New content is

added to the site weekly. Create your own personal library of movies and talks on this Catholic version of Netflix.



en español Visite la nueva página de nuestro sitio web y lea en su idioma nativo.

Póngase en contacto con Connie para obtener ayuda en español.



Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

CHURCH OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT
FAITH FORMATION

Confirmed in the Spirit!

Congratulations to our students (and families) who were confirmed on Saturday August 1st.



*Nicole Therese Bowlin

*Leslie Mary Lopez Cortes

*Peter Thomas Nguyen

*Kaylee Padre Pio Lopez Cortes

*Harold Emmanuel Cecilia Mascote Acosta

*Natalie Cecilia Rivas Olvera

Time to Register

Semi-monthly Faith Formation classes begin September 1. Registration forms are available in the Gathering Area or on our website. Classes meet on Tuesday mornings (NEW! CGS only), Wednesday evenings, or Sunday mornings after Mass. Videos and packets support at-home learning on alternating weeks. Expect Faith Formation to be flexible and responsive to the current situation. Parents are empowered as families grow in faith. Questions? Contact Connie Hill at the parish office or cahill@blessedsacramentsp.org.

Learn and Live the Faith

To bring Jesus to our students in formation, fun, and fellowship, we need all parents to pitch in. Whether you prefer learning in-person or fully at-home, we have options that meet your family's needs. Trained catechists guide parents in teaching the faith and help students prepare for sacraments.

In-person meetings will include wellness screenings, masks, and widely-spread learning centers. Parents and church work together to learn and live the faith!

Check out our new website!



On your
computer

....or hand held device!

www.blessedsacramentsp.org

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Real Presence on Facebook
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