

September 19, 2021

Homecoming



Mass at 11:00 am

September 19 Noon - 4:30 pm

FOOD! Spaghetti dinner, hot dog/brat/burger meals, beer/pop, cookies, pies, and more!

FUN! Inflatable mini-golf, Fish Pond, Cake Walk

TREASURES! Wine Barrel, Take-A-Chance, Book Sale

TUNES! Live Music with Buster Phelan



CHURCH OF THE
BLESSED Sacrament

2119 Stillwater Ave E St. Paul, MN 55119 651-738-0677 church@blessedsacramentsp.org
Mass Times: Saturday Anticipatory: 4 pm Sunday: 8:30 am & 11:00 am Daily, T-F 8:30am

Church of the Blessed Sacrament

Who's on First?

How we define the word "success" matters. Success is associated with the attainment of some goal or purpose. Taken on face value, this definition is not incompatible with what Jesus teaches. Being people of mercy and peace, for example, are certainly worthy goals in our Lord's eyes. However, we run into trouble when the goals and purpose associated with our understanding of success are self-serving rather than in service of the Kingdom of God. We are so conditioned to put our efforts into obtaining privilege and status that we forget about matters of the soul and the heart. These often get pushed aside in our pursuit of more tangible, measurable, secular gains.

What about the essence of our being: our soul? Our world does a great job convincing us of the illusion that being first is best. Whether it be first in line, first to be picked for the team, getting into our first choice for college, first to finish their work or first in my social group to earn the most money, great satisfaction is supposedly



achieved. Our egos can easily become our gods and we live this strangely attached yet sadly detached life where we are both connected and disengaged. Life becomes "something we do," a series of predestined roles we play on the road to success. Our stages are set with all of the pieces we think we need to get us where we think we need to go. We dance from one to the next, barely taking time to breathe, as we touch each component making certain everything is where it needs to be. Yet in doing so, we tire of playing the puppeteer of our life's characters and pieces, leaving our souls parched, lifeless and arid.

It is no wonder that [St. Oscar Romero](#) wisely said to, "Aspire not to have more, but to be more." It is better to have our life stage set with less so that we can be more fully present, rather than set with multiple things in competition for our time. Quality, not quantity, matters most in the Kingdom of God. Jesus wants nothing to do with our secularly success driven lives. He sees no more value in those pursuits than He did with the money changers in the temple. In being consumed with our own personal advancement over a true investment of ourselves in life, we become no better than those money changers. The illusions are the same: me before you, the top is better than the bottom, us versus them, personal security and safety over universal harmony and peace, making more and more money versus time-honored principles and virtues such as honesty, kindness, and love.

The world and its people are in crisis. As a result, faith and family are suffering. We are often so confused trying to figure out "what's" important that it's not even funny. Our young families, especially, suffer. Running from one thing to another: dance recitals, hockey games, baseball games, karate, swimming, music lessons, and other extracurricular activities leaves everyone exhausted. One after another of these "necessities" for success take time away from "simply being" together as a family, properly worshipping God, and savoring life. We convince ourselves

that all of these steps are necessary in order for our children to become successful. While each is fine to pursue in its own right, the way the package often comes together is destructive. Yet, we are overlooking what we really need to work on: our souls.

What we don't realize is that human beings have lost something very important along the way in life: innocence. We also don't realize that we really want and need it back. We get confused thinking that the "hole" we are feeling deep within is meant to be filled with something else. Only Jesus restores our lost innocence. There is wisdom to God's wonderful commandment to "keep holy the Sabbath day." We need a day of intentional worship and playful rest. When we can connect with the truth of God in Word and Eucharist, it makes all the difference in the world. We realize that the stages of our lives are not things that require the management of a skilled puppeteer but instead require the embrace and investment of a loving, engaged servant. In keeping the Sabbath holy, we also can find time in life's business to celebrate and play! When we can be playful, joyful, and even somewhat carefree, life is good. Relationships are things to be celebrated and enjoyed.

That's why Jesus loved the image of a child. There is a playful innocence about children. They don't manage life, they live it! They also want to do things for you, especially if you are someone they respect, admire, or idolize. There is no selfish ambition present in the innocent child, only the desire to please. Thus we have here the makings of a good servant, one who is detached from a preoccupation with self so that they can be used by God in service of others. We cannot be useful instruments to God unless we begin to perfect the "ministry of being." And we cannot begin to do that until we rid ourselves of the world's illusions and invest ourselves in the Kingdom of God. When we make that challenging choice, the tables begin to turn. We may find ourselves moving to a lesser place in the world's eyes but to a more prominent place in God's eyes. Sadly, however, many find all of this too challenging.

St. Oscar Romero continues with words of wisdom when he says, "Beautiful is the moment in which we understand that we are no more than an instrument of God; we live only as long as God wants us to live; we can only do as much as God makes us able to do; we are only as intelligent as God would have us be." Now there is a recipe for success! Imagine what the world would look like if we all really believed this and taught this as a firm and necessary lesson to our children! We could actually stop worrying about being first and experience the joy of life. And when we experience joy, we experience God; who is life for our souls.

Fr. Mark Suslenko

Need a Vacation or quiet prayer time away from home?


The CFIC order (Fr. Benny's Order) has a retreat house located in Mount Dora, Florida that we are offering for use to our parishioners and friends for a donation to the order. The house is located 45 miles northwest of Orlando Airport and 35 miles west of Sanford Airport in Florida. The house is large enough for a single family with three bedrooms and two baths. If you would like more information, please contact Joy in the parish office to see about available dates.

FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

Honoring our Military

We are always looking for more postings to go up on the new Military Honor board that is up on the wall just outside of the coatroom. Please consider bringing in a picture and dropping it off in the office. Joy will work with you on the information she needs for the posting. Special note: Watch for a new collection container for clothing for our Vietnam veterans coming real soon.





Tuesday, October 5
1:00-7:00pm

Signup on the Registration Form located in the Robertson Room, or call the parish office. Space is limited.

SOCIAL CONCERNS FOR SEPTEMBER

Special Emergency Collection for the month of September

Archbishop Hebda is asking all archdiocesan parishes to join with U.S. Catholics in an emergency collection for those suffering the devastating earthquake in Haiti. On August 14, a massive 7.2 magnitude quake hit Haiti leveling homes and businesses, leaving many without shelter or food. Hospitals and clinics are overwhelmed. Still struggling from the 2010 damaging earthquake, the country was also hit by Tropical Storm Grace adding to the devastation. Help is critical for our Haiti brothers and sisters desperate to survive. Gifts will be forwarded to the USCCB Bishops Emergency Disaster Fund created to support relief efforts through Catholic Relief Services in situations like Haiti. Our second collection will be taken this weekend, September 18 and 19.

ADORATION CHAPEL NEWS

The Church and the world have a great need of Eucharistic worship. Jesus waits for us in this sacrament of love. Let us be generous with our time in going to meet Him in adoration and in contemplation that is full of faith and ready to make reparation for the great faults and crimes of the world. May our adoration never cease.

Pope John Paul II

As we expand the hours our Adoration Chapel is open, we are looking to fill the Wednesday mornings hours of 7 am – 11 am. We also have a need for prayer partner for Fridays at 9 pm. Please call Kathy at 651-247-5185 or the parish office, if you are interested.



S T A F F	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 & SAFE ENVIRONMENT 651-738-0677
	Connie Hill, Director ext. 14
	MUSIC
O R Y	Jan Meulemans, Director.....651-307-7865
	PRAYER LINE
	Please call Carol McKenna.....612-594-1290
C H U R C H	CHURCH EMAIL: Church@blessedsacramentsp.org
	PARISH COUNCIL: parishcouncil@blessedsacramentsp.org

S A C R A M E N T S	BAPTISM - Participation in the Baptism preparation program is a prerequisite for Baptism. Schedule with the Parish Office.
	RECONCILIATION — Saturday 3:00-3:45pm; after 8:30 am Mass on Friday or 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-F, Please see signage for hours.
- The Rosary is said just prior to all weekend Masses.

P R A Y E R A D O R A T I O N S	Sunday, September 19 <i>Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>Wis 2:12, 17-20/ Jas 3:16-4:3/Mk 9:30-37</i> 8:30am † Barbara Luna 11am Parish Mass
	Monday, September 20 <i>Saint Jo Andrew Kim Taegon, Priest and Paul Chong Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs</i> <i>Ezr 1:1-6/Lk 8:16-18</i>
	Tuesday, September 21 <i>Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist</i> <i>Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Mt 9:9-13</i> Hyun Sook Han
	Wednesday, September 22 <i>Weekday</i> <i>Ezr 9:5-9/Lk 9:1-6</i> Art Heutmaker Family
	Thursday, September 23 <i>Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest</i> <i>Hg 1:1-8/Lk 9:7-9</i> Lafferena Krishnan
	Friday, September 24 <i>Weekday</i> <i>Hg 2:1-9/Lk 9:18-22</i> † Dolores Hausner
	Saturday, September 25 <i>Weekday/BVM</i> <i>Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Lk 9:43b-45(Morning Readings)</i> 4pm † Bernhard Drutschmann
	Sunday, September 26 <i>Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>Nm 11:25-29/Jas 5:1-6/Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48</i> 8:30am Parish Mass 11am † Gene Krismer

Church of the Blessed Sacrament

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

September 19—September 26

Sun, Sept 19:	9:30-10:45am Coffee & Donuts 9:45am Faith Formation Classes Noon-4:30pm Homecoming FunFest
Mon, Sept 20:	6:30-7:30 Movement & Christian Meditation
Tues, Sept 21:	9:30-11:00am CGS
Wed, Sept 22:	9-11am or 6-8pm Synod Small Group Mtgs
Sun, Sept 26:	9:30-10:45am Coffee & Donuts 9:45am Faith Formation Classes

FINANCE

Gifts of Treasure

September 11/12, 2021

Sunday Envelopes & Plate:	\$ 2,752.26
Other:	\$ 115.00
Haiti Collection	\$ 220.00
Additional Operating:	\$ 10.00
Homecoming Donations:	\$ 450.00
Total :	\$ 3,547.26

FAITH FORMATION

2021-2022 RCIA, Sacrament Prep, and Faith Formation

Classes meet from 9:45 to 10:45 am most Sundays. Options include:

- ✠ Children prepare for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion in the CGS atrium.
- ✠ Children continue their formation in the CGS atrium.
- ✠ Teens prepare for Confirmation through classes and a Fall NET Retreat on October 9 and 10.
- ✠ Adults prepare for full initiation or a refresher of the Catholic faith through RCIA classes beginning soon. Easter Vigil Mass is April 16.

Please call the office to inquire about Faith Formation classes and Sacramental preparation.

Help our Confirmation students lead a “dynamic Catholic” life!

Our students are ready for you to walk with them on a journey of sacrament preparation using Decision Point by Dynamic Catholic. Classes are Sunday mornings with a few additional times of service and worship throughout the year. No experience is necessary. Virtus E3 credentialing is required. All training is provided. You will give a lot and receive far more! If you or someone you know is living a vibrant Catholic life, connect with Connie about this rewarding ministry.

Children’s Liturgy of the Word (CLW)

CLW takes place during the 8:30 am Mass. Our first meeting was filled with prayerful children of all ages. (CLW is suggested for kindergarten through 4th grade). Kids hear the Sunday scripture proclaimed and explained at an age-appropriate level. Parents are welcome to assist with this ministry.

All Faith Formation volunteers must be “Essential 3” compliant by completing an online VIRTUS training, a background check, and Code of Conduct.

ARCHDIOCESAN SYNOD UPDATES

Connect with others in a small group.

On September 22, the topics will be “The heart of the Gospel” and “Forming missionary disciples.” The morning session is 9:00 am to 11:00 am and begins with continental breakfast. The evening session is 6:00 to 8:00 pm and begins with a light dinner. Make your voice heard and connect with others as you *Pray, Learn, Discuss, and Give Feedback* on the most important needs of our church. Come in the morning or evening for six Wednesdays this fall. Come in the morning or evening for six Wednesdays this fall.

CONNECT WITH YOUR CHURCH

Did you receive a postcard in the mail from church? Do you receive our weekly Flocknote emails? Do you know our current times for Mass and Reconciliation? If you answered “no” to any of these questions, please call the office. Don’t miss out on church activities. Be sure to come to the Homecoming FunFest today, September 19, from Noon to 4:30pm.

HOMECOMING FUNFEST



**Homecoming Funfest
Pie Booth and Cake Walk!**

Back by popular demand, we will still have these two great booths. Please bring a cake or sweet treats for the **Cake walk.**

Or bring a fresh pie for the **Pie Booth.** Bring your goodies to church on **September 18 or 19.**

Thank you,

Homecoming Funfest committee



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



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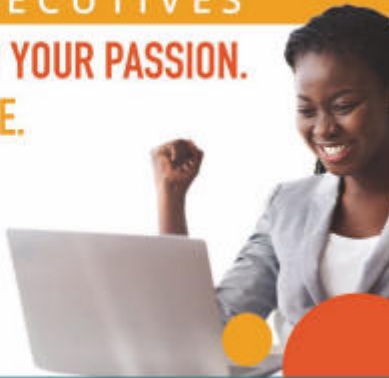
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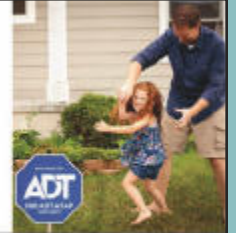


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