

October 10, 2021



28th Sunday IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus looked at them and said, "For human beings it is impossible, but not for God. All things are possible for God." - Mk 10:27

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.



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

Amazed, Astonished, Impossible...But...

Picture yourself in the scene of today's Gospel. Many of us can resonate with the response of these disciples — 'amazed,' and 'exceedingly astonished,' or from another perspective, shocked and perplexed — because they are our very own responses today when Jesus teaches. The poverty that Jesus invites His followers into can run in direct opposition to the "self-made man" perspective of the American culture. Cardinal Cantalamessa describes four aspects of this Evangelical Poverty: material poverty as a social phenomenon to be addressed (as in combating world hunger); material poverty as an evangelical position to be embraced (as in radical frugality and simplicity of life); spiritual poverty as an evil to be fought (as in deliverance ministry); and spiritual poverty as an ideal to strive for (as in the Little Way of St. Therese of Lisieux). Evangelical poverty is the pursuit of a characteristic of the heart, a quality of our being that ennobles the effort to attain it.



We find this quality beautifully exemplified in the life of St. Francis of Assisi. As his material needs decreased, so his capacity for enjoyment increased. "The poorer Francis became, the less cramped was his soul. Because he has such a zest for eliminating inessentials, his talent for enjoying life's good things grew steadily more highly sensitized." (Mother Mary Francis, *"Chastity, Poverty and Obedience: Recovering the vision for the Renewal of Religious Life"*)

Jesus' invitation here is to embrace the upside down perspective of being His follower. We find our riches in poverty. A seemingly impossible task indeed when it is so easy to drive ourselves down to the local store and purchase whatever it is that we need at any given moment, or we can just "Google it." Not that Evangelical Poverty is the exclusive domain of professed religious or is providing for one's needs out of the storehouse of their earnings a moral evil either. Somewhere in between destitution and opulence lies the balance for Jesus' invitation to Gospel poverty.

When I was living in a Catholic household of men many years ago, we had an annual practice of "the purge." It started on a Saturday morning after praying Morning Prayer together. We would each go separately to our rooms and sort through the possessions that had accumulated in our rooms over the course of the past year. After about an hour, we would gather together, and as a group led by the household leader, we would visit each room where there would be a few garbage bags of stuff either to be donated or to be discarded. The guideline for discerning what to keep or donate/discard was this, "Keep only what you need to survive." This was a very practical way that we kept ourselves accountable to the way of life we were trying to live out. Once we went through each guy's room, we then went through the common areas of the house in the same manner. After lunch together, we'd pile all the plastic bags into a car, or we'd throw them in the dumpster. This annual practice was a way that we embraced Gospel poverty proper to our state of life at the time.

The "nah-uh, Jesus" response that so many of us have is indicative of the impossibility of being a follower of Jesus on our own power. That's why Jesus gives His followers grace and the empowerment of the Holy Spirit in order to attain the lofty heights of virtue. We cannot do it on our own; our attachments to carnality, pleasures, and possessions, as well as the fickleness and frailty of our flawed character are indeed strong and difficult to surrender unless we are convinced that something greater is available worth the sacrifice. But Jesus' offer of salvation and eternal life is available to all without hesitation or reserve... how shall we respond today?

Br. John Marmion Villa

WOMEN'S CLUB

Our first Blessed Sacrament Women's Club meeting for the 2021 – 2022 season will be on Tuesday, October 12th at 6:30 pm in the Robertson Room. It's been a long time since we've last met or planned any events, it will be so great to once again get back together, to rekindle old & develop new friendships! This year we would like to increase the number of women that attend and I understand there are women in our parish who don't know we exist, don't know what we do or think we just get together each month for a boring meeting. So we are going to try harder to get us known throughout our church community. To begin with: **The mission of Blessed Sacrament Women's Club is to provide an opportunity for women of the parish, 18 years of age and older, to grow spiritually, develop new friendships, to foster and support our entire parish community.** At our first meeting, we will be planning events for this coming year, discussing past successful events and hopefully exploring new events. So bring your great ideas for fun and spiritual gatherings we can offer not only the women of our parish but our entire community. Your participation and ideas are greatly needed. Treats and refreshments will be served, hope to see you there!

We are in the month of October, the month of the Holy Rosary. Let us make use of this month to grow in our filial love and devotion to Blessed Virgin Mary, our Heavenly Patroness. Following her example, let us also try to experience her maternal love and turn to her at every moment of our lives for the true wisdom and guidance in our spiritual journey. I strongly encourage you to pray the Holy Rosary for the whole month October. I also invite you to consider making a commitment to be part of our 24/7 rosary chain. Let us reactivate this wonderful pious practice offering the Holy Rosary for the establishment of peace in the world, end of abortions and the pandemic, Covid-19. Please make a commitment and sign up to pray the rosary for the month of October. Thanks for your consideration and let us complete the chain.

All Hospitality Ministers are asked to attend the October 16 meeting at 10:00 AM to review the importance of doing CPR correctly and also how to use the AED.

Everyone will have an opportunity to practice doing CPR with equipment the instructor will bring.



FROM THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

Sister Vincent Catholic Education Fund

We are pleased and proud to announce that the Scholarship Committee has awarded eight scholarships for this current academic year totaling \$9,000 to relatives of our parishioners who are attending a Catholic Grade or High School. The purpose of this educational fund was set up years ago as a means to assist families who make the decision to send their children to a Catholic school. In summary, in only the last 5 academic school years we have awarded 40 scholarships totaling \$46,875. The monies available to this fund is quickly decreasing each year, so watch for exciting news on how we can build up this fund so we are able to offer scholarships in years to come. God bless!

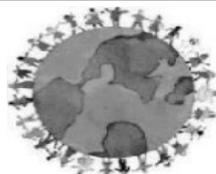


The mission of the Parish Council is to act as an advisory body to the Pastor, assisting him with specific tasks in establishing his goals for the parish, and supporting him in his role as shepherd. You will find the current council members listed on the website. From the Home Page select Who

We Are/Staff And Councils for our names.

The council meets next week, on Tuesday, October 19 at 6:30PM. The Pastor and chairperson will be assembling the agenda items for this Parish Pastoral Council meeting taking into account the input from other council members as they gather pertinent information from parishioners. If you have something to share for the agenda that is being prepared, or at anytime, please send us an email at parishcouncil@blessedsacramentsp.org.

SOCIAL CONCERNS FOR OCTOBER



In 1926 Pope Pius XI instituted **World Mission Sunday** for the whole Church with the first worldwide Mission Sunday collection taking place in October 1927. The Mission Sunday collection is always taken on the next to last Sunday during the

month of October. That day is celebrated in all the local Churches as the feast of catholicity and universal solidarity so Christians the world over will recognize their common responsibility with regard to the evangelization of the world. Please remember that we are all called to be missionary by our baptism and support those who are serving as missionaries by offering prayers and financial gifts during World Mission Sunday (Oct 16 & 17) in the parish collection.

ADORATION CHAPEL NEWS

Eucharistic Adoration offers to our people the opportunity to join those in religious life to pray for the salvation of the world, souls everywhere and peace on earth. We cannot underestimate the power of prayer and the difference it will make in our world.

Mother Teresa

As we expand the hours our Adoration Chapel is open, we are pleased to announce that we have now filled our Wednesday mornings hours. We are always in need of prayer partners with a special need for a prayer partner for Fridays at 9 pm. Please call Kathy at 651-247-5185 or the parish office, if you are interested.



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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 & SAFE ENVIRONMENT 651-738-0677**
- Connie Hill, Director ext. 14
- MUSIC**
- Jan Meulemans, Director.....651-307-7865
- PRAYER LINE**
- Please call Carol McKenna.....612-594-1290
- CHURCH EMAIL: Church@blessedsacramentsp.org**
- PARISH COUNCIL: parishcouncil@blessedsacramentsp.org**

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- 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.

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- Blessed Sacrament Adoration, M-F, Please see signage for hours.
- The Rosary is said just prior to all weekend Masses.

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- Sunday, October 10**
Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Wis 7:7-11/Heb 4:12-13/Mk 10:17-30
8:30am Parish Mass
11am † Melvin Houle
- Monday, October 11**
Weekday/Saint John XXIII, Pope
Rom 1:1-7/Lk 11:29-32
- Tuesday, October 12**
Weekday
Rom 1 :16-25/Lk 11:37-41
The Florin Family
- Wednesday, October 13**
Weekday
Rom 2:1-11/Lk 11:42-46
† Cruz Espenal Ancestors
- Thursday, October 14**
Weekday/Saint Callistus I, Pope & Martyr
Rom 3:21-30/Lk 11:47-54
Jonas & Juliana Subaar and Family
- Friday, October 15**
Saint Teresa of Jesus, Virgin & Doctor of the Church
Rom 4 1-8/Lk 12:1-7
† Al & Joan Bierwerth
- Saturday, October 16**
Weekday/Saint Hedwig, Religious; Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin; BVM
Rom 4:13, 16-18/Lk 12:8-12(Morning Readings)
4pm † Nicholas Chavez
- Sunday, October 17**
Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 53:10-11/Heb 4:14-16/Mk 10:35-45
8:30am † Bernard Bearth
11am Parish Mass

Church of the Blessed Sacrament

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

October 10– October 17

Sun, Oct 10:	9:30-10:45am Coffee & Donuts 9:45am Faith Formation Classes
Mon, Oct 11:	6:30-7:30 Movement & Christian Meditation
Wed, Oct 13:	9-11am or 6-8pm Synod Small Group Mtgs
Thurs, Oct 14:	6:30-8:30pm Men's Club Meeting
Sat, Oct 16:	10-11am AED/CPR Training
Sun, Oct 17:	9:30-10:45am Coffee & Donuts 9:45am Faith Formation Classes 11:00am Doran Baptism

FINANCE

Gifts of Treasure

October 2/3, 2021

Sunday Envelopes & Plate	\$ 7,633.16
Building/Utilities:	\$ 65.00
Additional Operations	\$ 255.00
Educational Fund:	\$ 10.00
Social Concerns:	\$ 30.00
TOTAL	\$ 7,993.16

FAITH FORMATION

✠ *Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all you lands; serve the Lord with gladness; come into His presence with singing! (Psalm 100).* The Educational Wing has been busy on Tuesday and Sunday mornings. We have over 30 students enrolled in our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) atria. Twelve students are preparing for First Holy Communion; three for Confirmation. Parents are active as catechists, monitors, nursery leaders, and hospitality. How beautiful it is for all of us to celebrate *coming home*.

✠ Our expanded offering of CGS has been such a gift. The children love to work hands-on with materials that launch them into prayer and better understanding of sacraments and liturgies. For example, children are pondering Jesus as Good Shepherd, learning the names of altar articles, and wondering about the Mystery of the Kingdom of God. Teachers also assist them in memorizing the prayers of our faith. Catechists and students are bearing fine fruits during Ordinary Time, this liturgical season of growing.

✠ Do you know the three great moments of the History of the Kingdom of God? Check your answer by visiting our website on the "Faith Formation" tab. www.blessedsacramentsp.org/faith-formation.

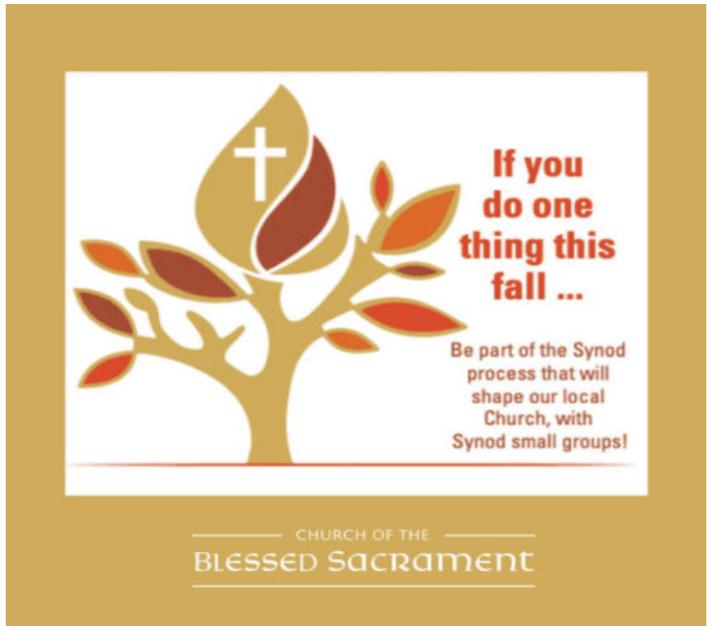
✠ Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLW) is such a blessing to families attending 8:30 am Sunday Mass. Thank you to our adult leaders and assistants. More are welcome! Thank you, parents, for allowing your children to participate as they hear and prayerfully discuss the Sunday scripture.

**No Faith Formation classes on Sunday, October 24.
Enjoy your MEA holiday break.**

ARCHDIOCESAN SYNOD UPDATES

Synod Small Groups this Week

Connect with others in a small group. On October 13, the topics will be “Liturgy and the Sunday Experience” and “Sharing the Gospel in Word and Deed.” 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 when you can!



CONNECT WITH YOUR CHURCH

Do you know we have a Google Calendar on the “Upcoming” page of our website? Do you receive our weekly Flocknote emails? Do you know our current times for Mass, Reconciliation, and Adoration? If you answered “no” to any of these questions, please call the office. Don’t miss out on church activities.



During the month of October you are encouraged to write in our “Book of Life” names of all family members, friends and parishioners who have died, whether long ago or recently. The “Book of Life” may be found right inside the main church doors. During the month of November, the “Book of Life” will remain in church to help us remember to pray for all our faithful departed.



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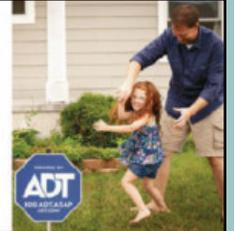


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