Seek the well-being of the city to which I have sent you. Pray for it to the Lord. For in seeking its well-being, you shall find your own. Jeremiah 29:7

SAFELY

18TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME
IN THE YEAR OF SALVATION TWO THOUSAND TWENTY
AUGUST 2, 2020

CELEBRATING

A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

The Basilica is our spiritual home—a place of welcome. We want each person who enters The Basilica to feel safe. The Basilica will follow all state health and safety guidelines.

You will see new practices and policies when you return. The policies will continue to change as we monitor the official guidelines. Pre-registration for Mass is required at mary.org or call our Director of Engagement at 612.317.3417.

Please review all of the protocols on the registration form. Your cooperation in these extraordinary times embodies our vision to seek the well-being of our community. Archbishop Hebda’s dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass continues.

We will continue to livestream Mass Monday - Friday at Noon and Sunday at 9:30am at mary.org and Facebook live at facebook.com/BasilicaMpls.

Rev. John M. Bauer
Pastor, The Basilica of Saint Mary

88 N 17th St
Minneapolis, MN 55403
612.333.1381
mary.org
A POWERFUL REFLECTION

A few weeks ago Fr. Tim Backous, OSB, who helped out on weekends at The Basilica several years ago, sent me a copy of a talk on racism that Abbot John Klassen gave at a conference of the monks of St. John’s Abby. I have been trying to write something on this topic for a while now with little success. I was so impressed with Abbot John’s talk, though, that I asked his permission to share a portion of it via this newsletter. He willingly gave permission, but with the caveat that I be clear that one of the sources for his talk was Fr. Bryan Massingale. I told him I would be pleased to do that. Below then is a portion of the talk Abbot John gave to the monks of St. John’s Abby on July 7, 2020. While this talk was given specifically to the monks, I believe it has meaning for all of us.

Father Bryan Massingale, a distinguished black faculty member at Fordham University, has written a powerful reflection on the challenge that faces the white community at this time. He makes some concrete suggestions for moving forward which serves as a template for the following reflections.

First, we need to understand the difference between being uncomfortable and being threatened. There is no way to tell the truth about race in this country without white people becoming uncomfortable. Because the plain truth is that if it were up to people of color, racism would have been resolved, over and done, a long time ago. The only reason for racism’s persistence is that white people continue to benefit from it, and we benefit from it, whether we know it or not. This truth makes my head and heart hurt.

What to do next? At first, nothing. Sit in the discomfort this hard truth brings. It needs to be agonizing. Let it move me to tears, to anger, to guilt, to frustration, to embarrassment. For what? For my ignorance. For my lack of understanding of the underlying issues that black and Latino people face every day. On any given day, at any given hour, their right to be on this good earth can be challenged. Because only when a critical mass of white people are outraged, grieved and pained over the status quo — only when white people become upset enough to declare, “This cannot and will not be!” — only then will real change begin to become a possibility.

Second, we need to admit our ignorance and do something about it. We need to understand that there is a lot about our history and about life that we’re going to have to unlearn. And learn over. We have all been taught an incomplete version of America that masks our terrible racial history. As white Americans we do not have an accurate sense of the long tail of damage that slavery did to our nation. The impact of the Jim Crow laws that neutralized black efforts to become active citizens in our democracy. We probably know very little of the terror of lynching. For a 30-year period from 1885-1915, on average every third day a black person was brutally and savagely and publicly murdered by white mobs. At present, black and brown people experience law enforcement as the latest version of this reign of terror.

Third, are there creative things we can do as a community that allow for learning on a deep existential level? Are there ways to invite our whole campus into this powerful moment and see it as a graced time for conversion toward Gospel justice and the inclusiveness of the reign of God? As a community we are profoundly related to alums and friends, so many of whom have been deeply moved by the events of the past five weeks. They look to us not so much for answers as for moral leadership, for the affirmation that our country needs to deliver on its promise of freedom to all of its citizens and to those who come to our doors.

Fourth, we need to be aware of the expression of racist attitudes in members of our community. When we encounter these expressions, we may not be silent. If there was ever a time and a place for fraternal correction, this is surely it. Sometimes we may be too patient, too tolerant and dismiss a comment as insensitive or ignorant when in fact, it is just racist, and is extremely harmful in a community where we are working every day to be inclusive.

Finally, we need to pray the psalms in fresh and imaginative way. The psalms are filled with lament, with the voices of men and women who are being crushed every day, people who have nowhere to turn. True, racism is a political issue and a social divide. But at its deepest level, racism is a sickness of the soul. It is a profound warping of the human spirit that enables human beings to create communities of callous indifference toward their darker sisters and brothers. As historian Paul Wachtel succinctly declares in his book Race in the Mind of America, The real meaning of race comes down largely to this: Is this someone I should care about?” Our Catholic and Benedictine monastic tradition have powerful responses to these questions and strong spiritual resources to support reflection and action. They also have the ethical foundation on which to stand. Let there be no question: this is an urgent time, a decisive moment, and we may not let it slip away.”
LITURGY & SACRED ARTS

PRAYER RESOURCES
Vespers and Prayer services recorded live are available on at mary.org/vespersandprayers.
Pray the Rosary together either in person or virtually with us; we have made a virtual Rosary available on our website at mary.org/rosary.

A PRAYER FOR OUR UNCERTAIN TIMES
All Mighty God,
May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake.
May we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable.
May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health and making their rent.
May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no options.
May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember those who have no home.
As fear grips our country, let us choose love.

And during this time when we may not be able to physically wrap our arms around each other, let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors. Amen.

WEEKDAY EUCHARIST
MONDAY-FRIDAY, NOON
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LIVESTREAM: MASS
Please continue to help us broaden our ministry by inviting friends and family to join us for livestreamed Mass on Sundays and on weekdays.

Weekdays Noon Mass and Sunday 9:30am Mass
Live on mary.org and Facebook at facebook.com/BasilicaMpls

Mass Recording Archive
mary.org/massrecordings

LIVESTREAM: SUNDAY PRAYER FOR SOLACE AND PEACE
SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 5:30PM
Livestream at mary.org or Facebook live at facebook.com/BasilicaMpls.

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 10:30AM
Pre-registration for Mass is required at mary.org. Live on mary.org and Facebook at facebook.com/BasilicaMpls.

LIVESTREAM: TAIZÉ PRAYER
SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 5:30PM
This service is characterized by mantra-like singing of simple, beautiful songs, following the Taizé community tradition of communal prayer focused on reconciliation and healing. Live on Facebook facebook.com/BasilicaMpls or mary.org.

ART THAT SURROUNDS US
Johan van Parys, Ph.D., Director of Liturgy and Sacred Arts, shares information each week about a piece from The Basilica of Saint Mary’s art collection. Visit mary.org/artthatsurroundsus.

Recent weeks include the following:

Homeless Jesus
Sculpture by Canadian artist Timothy Schmalz installed outdoors along Hennepin Avenue.

Our Lady of Good Counsel
Made at the Vatican Art Museums and donated by Cathy and Jack Farrell.

The Hospitality of Saint Julien
Located in Saint Teresa of Calcutta Hall, lower level.
CIVILIZE IT: DIGNITY BEYOND THE DEBATE

During these challenging times, it remains important for us to intentionally find ways to bridge the gap in the public square. We invite you to join Catholics throughout the United States and model love for neighbor by pledging to Civilize It and committing to civility, clarity, and compassion in 2020. Civilize It: Dignity Beyond the Debate is a non-partisan call to focus on the dignity of all people, even those with whom we disagree, and to put faith in action. Learn more at mary.org/civilizeit or contact Janice at 612.317.3477 or jandersen@mary.org.

MENTAL HEALTH MINISTRY

Many of us are feeling depressed or anxious. The Mental Health Ministry invites you to use The Basilica’s Domestic Church Resource that has many ideas and resources for our mental health at mary.org/domesticchurch. If you find you need more information or guidance, please contact Janet Grove at 612.317.3508 or jgrove@mary.org to talk to a ministry member or to be connected with one of our community partners.

HOSPITALIZED?

Please take the time to let The Basilica know, whether it’s a planned stay or completely unexpected. We’d like to offer prayer support and accompany you in ways that best meet your needs. Because of privacy laws, too often we don’t know when our parishioners are ill or recovering from surgery. If you or a family member call or email to let us know, we can work in tandem with the spiritual care department at the hospital and continue to offer caring ministries and spiritual support once you are released. You can contact Wendy at wcaduff@mary.org or call The Basilica’s reception desk.

ZOOM: PRISONERS OR PATIENTS?

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 1:00PM, ZOOM

The Basilica can help men and women leaving prison and jail who have mental health issues that are additional barriers to their release. If you are interested in joining us and discussing how The Basilica can help people coming out of prison, please contact Janet Grove at 612.317.3508 or jgrove@mary.org.

BECOMING HUMAN: DISMANTLING RACISM

During the season of Lent 2020, the University of St. Thomas and The Basilica of Saint Mary collaborated on an educational series focused on dismantling racism called Becoming Human. Now available through an online portal, this six-part series examines the complexities of racism and provides additional tools to help engage in the work of transforming our communities. To access the series, visit mary.org/becominghuman. For more information or to get involved in work of racial reconciliation at The Basilica of Saint Mary, contact Janice at 612.317.3477 or jandersen@mary.org.

MEETINGS SUSPENDED: DOWNTOWN GRIEF COALITION

Until further notice, we will not be meeting at our host church site on Saturday mornings due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are offering Saturday morning virtual sessions over Zoom. Please visit mplsgriefsupport.com for more information, schedule updates, and resources to help you grieve during these uncertain days. There is a contact form on the homepage to inquire about Zoom credentials.

PRAYER LINE

Prayer is powerful. About 90 people pray each week for the intentions of others on their own time. Names and intentions are emailed out weekly. If you have the gift of praying for the needs of others and want to join the prayer ministry, please contact Wendy at wcaduff@mary.org to be added to the ministry. You can also go to mary.org/prayerrequests or call the reception desk at 612.333.1381 to ask for prayer.

COMMON GOOD

EMPLOYMENT MINISTRY

Now is the time to look for and secure that new job before the greater number of people who are unemployed will be looking. Also, did you know that working with our employment ministry counts toward looking for work if you are receiving Unemployment Insurance pay? The Basilica’s job coaches are working with people remotely via computer and phone meetings on resumes, cover letters, starting one’s own business, networking, and social media and the job search. Please contact Janet if you are interested in working with a coach at 612.317.3508 or jgrove@mary.org.

DISABILITY AWARENESS MINISTRY

Interested in being a Barrier Buster? The Basilica’s Disability Awareness Ministry works to eliminate all barriers to participation at The Basilica of Saint Mary. Planning for 2020-21 is underway. We meet via Zoom on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 5:30 pm. For more information, contact Janet Grove at 612.317.3508 or jgrove@mary.org.

ZOOM: BASILICA BOOK CLUB

Join us the first Thursday of each month at 10:00am via Zoom for thoughtful and courageous conversation. Contact Karen for further details at 612.872.7535.

August 6 Drive Your Plow Over The Bones of The Dead by Olga Tokarczuk

September 3 The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas

October 1 Night Boat to Tangier by Kevin Barry
FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

ZOOM: BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS
SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 9:00AM
If you are expecting, or in the process of adopting a child, please attend one of our baptism preparation classes currently online. We offer classes approximately nine times a year for parents who are registered members of The Basilica and plan on having their child baptized here. Godparents are welcome too. For more information call the Learning office at 612.317.3414. Please register online at mary.org.

CHILDREN’S AND YOUTH MINISTRY REGISTRATION ONLINE
LAST DAY TO REGISTER: AUGUST 31
We are planning for our fall Children’s and Youth Ministry programs. While we all wait to see what next fall will look like for us, we do have ideas in place for both in-person and distance learning. We will make informed decisions regarding in-person classes in August. Early registration helps us to plan and purchase materials and recruit catechists and room assistants. Please register at mary.org/faithformation.

If you are unable to pay tuition at this time, please consider registering now and choosing the "bill me later" option. If you volunteer to be a catechist or room assistant, tuition fees are waived for your children. If you need scholarship assistance or have questions about the programs, please do not hesitate to contact Christine at 612.317.3439 or cmoore@mary.org.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)
At the same time that we are distanced from friends and family to avoid the spread of COVID, some people are feeling a tug, a gentle consistent reminder that there is something more to be experienced or grasped. Something more to be. Perhaps you have a bit more time to pray and reflect this summer. Perhaps you are thinking that this may be the right time to explore becoming Catholic, or learning more about the Catholic faith and celebrating Confirmation. The Basilica community is waiting to welcome you. Contact Cathy in the Learning office at cedwards@mary.org.

SPONSOR AN RCIA CANDIDATE
For every RCIA candidate, there is a need for a sponsor. Someone who is a good listener and would like to accompany another person on their faith journey. If you think this might be a good ministry for you, contact Cathy in the Learning office to find out details at edwards@mary.org.
MAKE A GIFT FOR VIRTUAL MINISTRIES
As we continue to connect virtually during the COVID-19 pandemic, we ask for your help to fund our online initiatives, web-based ministries, livestreamed Masses and other virtual operations.

Over the last several months, The Basilica has utilized these outlets to stay connected to our local community and beyond. With these shifts in technology come additional administrative and equipment costs. If you would like to support these virtual ministries, please consider a gift at mary.org/give.

You can also make a gift with a text from your phone; text ”VIRTUAL” to 612.249.7559.

BASILICA FUND
We are profoundly grateful for the outpouring of support that The Basilica of Saint Mary has received in response to our request to help sustain our operations and empower our mission. We ask for your continued financial support to offset the loss of donations that are usually collected during our regular Mass schedule. If you have not done so and would like to help, please consider making a gift to The Basilica Fund at mary.org/give.

TEXT TO GIVE
Now you can support our ministries from anywhere with a text from your phone; text ”GIVE” to 612.249.7559 and follow the text prompts to complete your transaction.

CONTACT US
If you would like to make a gift by phone, please contact Stephanie Bielmas at 612.317.3472.

As you continue to send mail to The Basilica, please ensure that you’re sending to our updated mailing address. We no longer have our previous P.O. Box address.

The Basilica of Saint Mary
88 North 17th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55403

The Basilica Landmark
88 North 17th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55403

Basilica Events, LLC
88 North 17th Street
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