OUR SPIRITUAL HOME

In 2015 my husband David and I relocated to Minneapolis from Washington D.C. In our search for a new parish, we visited The Basilica for mass. The processional included a beautiful collection of iconography accompanied by the Cathedral Choir’s singing of John Tavener’s *Song for Athene.* Then the celebrant began with: “wherever you are in your faith journey, you are welcome here.” We looked at each other and shared a common understanding: this was our new spiritual home.

Not long after becoming parish members, we both had the opportunity to serve in ministry leadership roles – David as a section leader in the Cathedral Choir, and I as a member of the Parish Council. It made an impression that we as new members were invited to engage in shaping our work as a parish community - whether through a musical performance or a new strategic plan.

We support The Basilica because we believe in its vision to be a home of spiritual nourishment, a beacon of hope, and an advocate for change. We see this vision lived out in the parish, in our community and in our own lives. **As parishioners, we want to play an active role in bringing the Basilica’s vision to life, and parish service is an important part of that.**

The Parish Council serves an important role as part of our Basilica community: It is a collaborative group of 15 volunteer representatives who bring a wide array of perspectives and experiences from ministry areas across the Parish to advise and support the Pastor and staff in realizing the Basilica’s vision and mission. The Basilica’s *Our Parish, Our Future* strategic plan is a great example of the type of impact that comes from this collaboration between Basilica leadership and staff, Parish Council members, and volunteers.

Parish Council elections will take place in May of this year, with **nominations due by April 15. This year there are two open positions: one to represent the Learning department, and one to represent the Christian Life department.**

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*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*
A COMMUNITY ROOTED IN THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST.

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we:
• Practice biblical stewardship
• Share our faith with others in word and deed
• Pursue ecumenical and interfaith relationships
• Rejoice in rich diversity

As the Co-Cathedral of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, we are committed to provide:
• Inspiring liturgies and sacred arts
• Transforming life-long learning opportunities
• Engaging service to one another and justice for all

STRATEGIC AREAS OF FOCUS

The Basilica of Saint Mary is committed to the future growth of our parish. The Our Parish Our Future plan outlines the three strategic areas of focus for the next five years. This plan builds upon the parish’s strong vision, mission, and values.

The Arts
Move, inspire, and transform individuals and communities through excellence in the arts and creative practices.

Inclusivity
Build a culture where people feel valued, welcome, integrated, and included.

Homelessness
Respond to the needs of people experiencing or at risk of homelessness. These three areas of focus were strategically selected through a comprehensive, contemplative process with our parish leadership, staff, and consultants.

The three areas will unify and inspire collaboration across our parish and resonate throughout our commitment to the community.

Learn more about the strategic direction of our parish at mary.org/ourfuture.

Parish Council service has had a meaningful impact on my own faith life and allowed me to positively impact our parish community. I encourage you to consider service as a lay leader, or to nominate a fellow parishioner for Parish Council service. I also encourage all parishioners to vote in our Parish Council elections. These volunteer positions make a meaningful impact in our parish community, and your voice is important.

I would be delighted to connect with you or someone you know who would like to explore Parish Council service. Please reach out to me through the link at mary.org/parishcouncil.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Important Information & Dates:
April 15: Deadline for Nominations
Send nomination
Nomination form: mary.org/pcnominations

May 26 – June 7: Elections - voting available online or during mass

Katelin Richter Davis
Secretary, Parish Council

SAFELY CELEBRATING MASS

MASS REGISTRATION PROCESS
• Pre-registration is required and opens 24 hours before each Mass.
• Register at mary.org or call the Director of Engagement at 612.317.3417.
• Registration closes online one hour prior to Mass or if it has reached capacity.
• You may only register for one Mass at a time.
• Be sure to bring a face mask with you, which needs to be worn over your nose and mouth at all times inside The Basilica.

VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP ROLE

We are looking to fill a volunteer leadership role on the parish Finance Committee starting this fall. This is a three-year term position, with the option to serve a second three year term. The committee normally meets on the third Tuesday of the month (September – April) and meets with the Parish Council on the third Wednesday in May to finalize budgets.

If you have a background in accounting, banking, audit, investments, budgeting or Human Resources and are interested in this opportunity or would like more information, please contact Audra Johnson at 612-317-3422 or ajohnson@mary.org.
LENTEN OBSERVANCE

The Christian faithful are to do penance through prayer, fasting, abstinence, and by exercising works of piety and charity. All Fridays through the year, and especially during Lent, are penitential days.

ABSTINENCE: All who have reached their 14th birthday are to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and on all Fridays during Lent.

FASTING: All those who are 18 or older, until their 59th birthday, are to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Only one full meal is allowed on days of fast. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength may be taken according to one’s need, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids are allowed. The obligation does not apply to those whose health or ability to work would be affected seriously.

ZOOM: LENTEN MORNING PRAYER
TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS OF LENT, 9:15AM
Please find the Zoom link at mary.org.

FRIDAYS OF LENT
7:00AM EUCHARIST, BASILICA
In-person
NOON, EUCHARIST, BASILICA
In-person and livestream
5:30PM STATIONS OF THE CROSS, BASILICA
In-person and livestream

LENTEN EVENING PRAYER
SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 21, 28
3:00PM
In-person and livestream
SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 2:30PM
On Palm Sunday, March 28, there will be a choral meditation beginning at 2:30pm with The Basilica Schola Cantorum.
In-person and livestream

SOLEMNITY OF SAINT JOSEPH (NON-OBLIGATORY)
FRIDAY, MARCH 19, NOON MASS, BASILICA
We will mark this solemnity with festive music (organ and cantor).

SOLEMNITY OF ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LORD (NON-OBLIGATORY)
THURSDAY, MARCH 25, NOON MASS, BASILICA
We will mark this solemnity with festive music (organ and cantor).

SACRED ART
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.

LENT AND EASTER ART COLLECTION
Visit an extensive collection of art and crucifixes online at mary.org/lenteasterart.
ZOOM: UNDERSTANDING INVISIBLE DISABILITIES WORKSHOP
MONDAY, MARCH 15, 3:00-4:30PM, ZOOM
Presenters Cindy Edwards and Annie Montemayor have developed a unique virtual workshop to:
- Educate people on the most common invisible disabilities in the workforce today
- Discuss how to build a culture of disability awareness and acceptance
- Give resources on understanding when to refer, disclosure rights, privacy and options that protect people with invisible disabilities
- Promote self-advocacy, helping people understand steps for requesting reasonable accommodations
- Teach conversation skills for discussing invisible disabilities in the workplace and beyond
Register at mary.org/invisible for this free event and to receive Zoom login details.

ZOOM: PRISONERS OR PATIENTS? TASK FORCE
SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1:00-2:00PM, ZOOM
Are you interested in learning about people in prison who have mental health issues? This group meets every third Thursday of the month at 1:00pm and is currently working on a mentor program for people coming out of a Minnesota prison, have a mental health issue, and desire a spiritual connection. The next meeting is Thursday, March 18 at 1:00pm. Please contact Janet at 612.317.3508 or jgrove@mary.org for more information.

ZOOM: AMERICAN REFUGEE PODCAST SERIES
SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 9:00-10:00AM, ZOOM
Sam Graber is the host of the award-winning podcast American Refugee. With a national listening audience, Sam lives in Minnesota and is a member of Temple Israel. Joined by immigrant advocates he will moderate the Saturday Zoom session. Listen to the podcast and then join in for a spirited and informed discussion with immigration leaders from throughout Minnesota. The discussion will focus on Episode 9: Escape the Room. Register at mary.org/immigrationpodcast to receive the Zoom credentials.

THE MENTAL HEALTH FILM FESTIVAL COMING SOON!
The Mental Health Film Festival is coming in April—virtually and powerfully. Using the Prisoners or Patients Program as inspiration, four films will be available virtually for our parishioners to watch around the theme of those in prison with mental illness. Watch for more information on accessing the films. Contact Janet Grove at 612.317.3508 or jgrove@mary.org.

ZOOM: SHORT LISTENING WORKSHOP
SATURDAY, MAY 1, 9:00-11:30AM, ZOOM
Emmaus Listening Ministry seeks to bring the gift of listening to the world. For those not quite ready to enter the ministry or commit to the full training, a short listening workshop will be offered on Saturday, May 1 to help us become better listeners to those we love and those we work with. Come, experience a couple of the foundational, core principles of listening and learn new skills to apply in your personal life. Registration required for this free workshop at mary.org/listeningworkshop. Questions? Contact Wendy at 612.317.3474 or wcaduff@mary.org.

IMMIGRANT SUPPORT MINISTRY
The Basilica Immigrant Support Ministry assists refugees, asylum seekers and those facing deportation by partnering with community organizations, fostering long-term relationships, offering financial assistance and other support. It provides education and advocacy on behalf of those we serve. Consider joining teams to accompany families who are migrants in our community. If you would like to learn more or get involved, contact Betsy at eframsey@comcast.net.

ZOOM: CENTERING PRAYER
FRIDAYS, 10:00AM, ZOOM
In the Christian tradition, Contemplative Prayer is considered to be a pure gift of God. It is the opening of mind and heart—our whole being—to God, the Ultimate Mystery, beyond thoughts, words and emotions. Centering Prayer is a method designed to facilitate the development of Contemplative Prayer. Consider joining Basilica parishioners each week as they seek to grow in their relationship with God. For more information, contact Colleen at colleenmaiers@yahoo.com or go to mary.org.

LISTEN, LISTEN...
When a woman with an aging parent suffering from dementia can share her story with a listening presence; when a patient with a life-threatening illness can talk about his fears to a caring ear; when a woman who has been abused finds comfort in safely telling her story to a nonjudgmental listener—that is the power of Emmaus Listening Ministry. Contact Wendy to become trained or to have a volunteer listener meet with you: 612.317.3474 or wcaduff@mary.org. This is a free ministry at The Basilica provided by highly trained volunteers. Next training is in early April; interviews happening now!

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 or mailed out weekly. If you have the gift of praying for the needs of others and want to join the prayer ministry, contact Wendy at wcaduff@mary.org to be added to the ministry. You can also go to mary.org/prayerrequests to ask for prayer or call the reception desk at 612.333.1381.

NEW MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCE
Allied Against Opioid Abuse and the National Hispanic Medical Association have partnered to create a new bilingual toolkit and video focused on promoting the safe use, storage, and disposal of prescription opioids in the Hispanic community. Go to Allied Against Opioid Abuse to download the toolkit and watch the video. For more resources and help with mental health concerns, contact Janet at 612.317.3508 or jgrove@mary.org.
**ADULT LEARNING**

**RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)**
In February, 15 catechumens and candidates were elected to go forward and continue to prepare and pray regarding their readiness and call to enter into full Communion in the Catholic Church at The Basilica of Saint Mary. As a community, we are fortunate to have these new spirits among us, bringing new life to our organic church.

We can help them to be ready, through our daily prayer for their journey. In the church, there are baskets with the names of our catechumens and candidates, please take one, or call or email the Learning office to ask for a person for whom you would like to pray.

**FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN**

**Zoom: Baptism Class for Parents Infants & Children Age 6 and Younger**
**Tuesday, March 23, 6:30-8:30PM**
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 612.317.3439. Please register online at mary.org.

**Zoom: First Communion Parent/Candidate Meeting**
**Sundays, March 14, 21 11:30AM**
Please see 2nd Grade Google Classroom for more information.

**THE SEASON OF LENT**

Prepare for a fruitful celebration of the Season of Lent.
The ultimate goal of the Season of Lent is a conversion of heart or a turning away from our sinful ways in order to embrace the Gospel. One of the phrases used during the imposition of Ashes on Ash Wednesday is this: Repent, and believe in the Gospel. This is a very direct and clear statement. This is what we are called to do during Lent.

Each Friday of Lent we will offer you one attainable suggestion for the three Lenten disciplines of fasting, prayer and charity. You might look at these as cumulative as we journey through the season.
For the Lenten Journey series visit mary.org/lentenjourney.

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/roary.
In 2020, The Basilica Landmark has funded the following projects:

- Tuck-pointing the exterior façade on the upper western side of the Church
- Performing the necessary maintenance and the installation of a new blower unit for our organ
- Installation of two needlepoint bipolar ionizations units to remove viruses (including SARS and COVID-19), allergens and mold from the air of Church, lower level, and choir room
- Acquire equipment, cameras, lighting, computers, software and training for livestreaming

We invite you to join our efforts by making a gift to The Basilica Landmark’s Annual Fund today at thebasilicalandmark.org/give or by contacting Stephanie at 612.317.3472.

SAVE THE DATE:
LANDMARK SPARK
SATURDAY, MAY 15

Landmark Spark will go on as planned on Saturday, May 15, but in a virtual capacity. This year, we will be live-streaming the event straight into your home.

Tickets start at no cost. Sponsorship packages are available to purchase. Please visit thebasilicalandmark.org/spark for more information.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MISSION (SVDP) GIVING

Now is the time to renew or establish your recurring gift to The Basilica’s SVdP ministries. To do so, please visit mary.org/give. We thank you in advance for your prayerful contribution.

JOIN THE LEGACY SOCIETY

Have you considered a legacy gift to The Basilica Landmark? By giving a legacy gift, you can help preserve and restore our church and its campus for generations to come. Planned giving is for anyone, regardless of age, income level or assets. Strategies for making a planned gift can be tailored to meet a broad range of goals and circumstances.

For more information on the Landmark Legacy Society, please contact Monica at 612.317.3429 or mstuart@mary.org.
FOR A LIMITED TIME
Contact Gina Shaughnessy to include your message on this page!
gshaughnessy@4LPi.com or (800) 950-9952 x2487