



Church of St. Rita

CONNECTING FAITH AND LIFE

8694 80TH STREET SOUTH, COTTAGE GROVE, MN 55016 | PHONE: 651-459-4596 | WWW.SAINTRITAS.ORG

PARISH STAFF

PastorFr. Mark Joppa
 Deacons.....Steve Koop and Jack Nicklay
 Business Administrator Rory Gilbert
 Safe Environment Coordinator.....Rory Gilbert

Pastoral Associates:

Elementary Faith Formation.....Kathy Kovarik
 Youth Ministry and Faith Formation
 Youth Ministry Assistant.....Oliva Keen
 Music Director Adam Baus
 Pastoral Care Jack Nicklay

Support Staff:

Office Manager.....Cindy Mitchell
 Director of Maintenance Todd Salmonson
 Faith Formation Assistant Carol Goecke

MINISTRIES, CHAIRS & CONTACTS

Parish Trustees Rose Svitak and Bob Schultz
 Parish Council Chair Lori Beasley
 Finance Council Chair Bob Schultz
 Adult Formation/Bible Study Marylee Stabenow
 Mission Outreach/Sister Parish Mary Hilgers
 Pro Life Committee Nini Nelson
 AdorationJane Korf
 St. Rita’s Women’s Council.....Cathy Schmit
 Sun. Night Prayer GroupTim Murray
 Knights of Columbus. Bill Yunker
 Garden Committee.....Rosanne Hauptert & Cathy Mitchell
 Liturgical Environment Committee.....Nancy Reckinger
and Phyllis Bries
 Ladies Craft Ministries.....Karen Callinan
 Donut Sunday..... Sharron Hoffman
 Community MealJack Nicklay
 Bread Basket.....Karen Callinan
 Parish Nurse Mary Fran Koch

“As the family goes,
 so goes the nation,
 and so goes the
 whole world
 in which
 we live.”
 ST. JOHN PAUL II

Day of Prayer
 for the Legal
 Protection of
 Unborn Children

Weekend Liturgies
 Saturday 5:00 pm
 Sunday 8:30 and 10:30 am

2ND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME - JANUARY 16, 2022

SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:

As a young man marries a virgin,
your Builder shall marry you;
and as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride
so shall your God rejoice in you. (Is 62:5)

PSALM:

Proclaim his marvelous deeds to all the nations. (Ps 96)

SECOND READING:

But one and the same Spirit produces all of these,
distributing them individually to each person as he
wishes. (1 Cor 12:11)

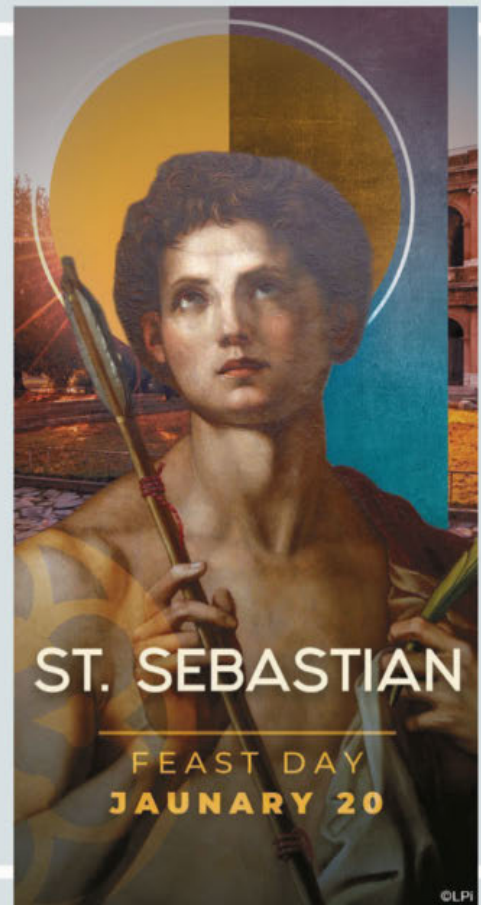
GOSPEL:

Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs at Cana in Galilee
and so revealed his glory,
and his disciples began to believe in him. (Jn 2:11)

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OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 16, 2022

- Sunday: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday: Martin Luther King Day; St. Anthony, Abbot
- Tuesday: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
- Thursday: St. Fabian, Pope and Martyr; St. Sebastian, Martyr
- Friday: St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr
- Saturday: Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children
- Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time; St. Vincent, Deacon and Martyr; St. Marianne Cope, Virgin



Saint of the Week

Not much is known about the life of St. Sebastian (256 – 287), except that he was a Roman martyr whose name has been mentioned throughout history since early 350.

We see St. Sebastian many times in art, especially from iconic paintings from Guido Reni, Andrea Mantegna and Hendrick ter Brugghen. Historical scholars now agree that a spiritual story has the beloved saint entering the Roman army because only there could he assist Christian martyrs without arousing suspicion on himself. Eventually he was found out, brought before Emperor Diocletian and delivered to Mauritanian archers to be shot to death. Pierced with arrows, he was left for dead, but managed to survive. He recovered from his wounds but still refused to leave.

One day, St. Sebastian took up a position near where the emperor was to pass. He confronted the emperor, condemning him for his cruelty to Christians. This time the sentence of death was carried out, and St. Sebastian was beaten to death with clubs. Today he is the patron saint of athletes.

Part 1 - "To Live in Light: Good Advice from Fyodor Dostoevsky,"



Happy New Year! If you are not familiar with Wordonfire.org, (WOF) take a look at their wonderful content and prepare to be amazed. Just a couple months ago, I signed up to the Word On Fire Institute (\$27/month). There is even more good content to when you sign up and pay (multiple video series) to help you increase your faith.

This week I would like to share with you a good article from WOF entitled, "To Live in Light: Good Advice from Fyodor Dostoevsky," by Matthew Becklo dated December 23, 2021. The year 2021 marked the 200th anniversary of the birth of literary giant Fyodor Dostoevsky who wrote most famously, *Crime and Punishment*, "The Grand Inquisitor," and *The Brothers Karamazov*. Matthew Becklo highlights twenty "rules for life" inspired by Dostoevsky. I found them to be quite profound and encouraged me to keep reading great works of literature. I have listed #'s 1-6 this week, #'s 7—13 next week, and #'s 8-20 the third week's bulletin. I hope these bulletin articles inspire you to increase your faith and to be a lifelong learner!

1. Take God seriously—because without him, everything is permitted.

In *The Brothers Karamazov*, the young skeptic Ivan proposes an idea that has haunted readers ever since: without belief in God and immortality, "everything is permitted." Man may still be good without God, but he no longer finds any ultimate ground for morality.

2. Take the problem of evil seriously.

3. Embrace the freedom and adventure of faith.

In "*The Grand Inquisitor*," So much could be said about this rich, complex story, but a basic lesson is this: the call to follow Christ is a call to spiritual adventure, not spiritual mediocrity.

4. Offer a kiss when only a kiss will speak.

At the close of "The Grand Inquisitor," Alyosha imitates the gesture of the silent Christ in the parable, offering a kiss to his anguished brother. Sometimes, all the explanation, discussion, and argumentation in the world won't seem to get us anywhere with someone we love. All we can do is refuse to give up on them, be present to them, and embrace what is good, true, and beautiful in them.

5. Do not fear the crucible of doubt.

Dostoevsky knew that faith does not mean stifling the life of the mind; on the contrary, in the year of his death, he wrote, "It is not as a child that I believe in Christ and confess him. My hosanna has passed through a great crucible of doubt." The Christian must be unafraid of the hard, difficult questions that arise in life; in fact, questions can ultimately forge and strengthen faith.

6. Be clear-eyed about the dark side of man's nature.

A theme of so much of Dostoevsky's work is that—the dream of the Enlightenment notwithstanding—dark forces are constantly at work in human life: irrationality, self-torment, addiction (Dostoevsky himself wrestled with gambling), cruelty, rage, and violence.

Watch for part 2 next week

God is good, Fr. Mark Joppa

**St. Ambrose of Woodbury Perpetual Adoration Chapel opened January 2nd
Visit their website at www.saintambrose.weadorehim.com
for more information.**

Deaths



For those who have died we pray

- Jennifer Miller
- Juanita Dean
- Arnie Horn
- Maureen Burth
- Barb, cousin of Karen Beste

May they rest in you Lord

Prayer Requests



Pray for the sick of our parish

- Paul & Pat Kotnour
- Kathy Carlson
- Roxanne, friend of Kathy Carlson
- Jody, niece of Dale Wohnoutka
- Mary, mother of Michon Ordner

Heal them with your touch Lord

PRAY TO PROTECT HUMAN LIFE

Jan. 22, 2022 Cathedral of Saint Paul.

Prayer service at 10:30 am
 Follow by a **12:00**
MCCL's March for Life
 at the State Capitol.

Prayer service commemorates the millions of lives lost to abortion and the many women and men wounded by abortion's aftermath.

More information regarding the march can be found at www.mccl.org/march

An additional option for prayer is the **9 DAYS FOR LIFE NOVENA**
Wed, Jan. 19 – Thurs, Jan. 27, 2022.

Novena can be found at
www.9daysforlife
 or
www.respectlife.org



A little change... CHANGES LIVES!



IT'S BOTTLE TIME!

Pick up a bottle or envelope, January 22-31
 Fill the Bottle with change, \$\$ or check

Return bottles to St. Rita's by February 7th

Please make checks out to Woodbury Options for Women
THANK YOU FROM SAINT RITA'S RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE.

A virtual bottle drive is available online at
www.woodburymissionpartners.com/baby-bottle

Frank & Ernest by Bob Thaves



Senior Singles

The Senior Singles **WILL NOT** be meeting for lunch in the month of January.

Watch for information for our next lunch date early February.

Word of God - DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sunday, Jan 16		Isaiah 62:1-5		Psalm 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 (3)		1 Corinthians 12:4-11		John 2:1-11	
MON., JAN 17	TUES., JAN 18	WED., JAN 19	THURS., JAN 20	FRI., JAN 21	SAT., JAN 22	MON., JAN 23	TUES., JAN 24	WED., JAN 25	THURS., JAN 26
1 Samuel 15:16-23	1 Samuel 16:1-13	1 Samuel 17:32-33, 37, 40-51	1 Samuel 18:6-9; 19:1-7	1 Samuel 24:3-21	2 Samuel 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27	1 Samuel 15:16-23	1 Samuel 16:1-13	1 Samuel 17:32-33, 37, 40-51	1 Samuel 18:6-9; 19:1-7
Mark 2:18-22	Mark 2:23-28	Mark 3:1-6	Mark 3:7-12	Mark 3:13-19	Mark 3:20-21	Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10	Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 15	1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27	Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Church of St. Rita
 8694 80th Street South
 Cottage Grove, Minnesota 55016

Parish Telephone..... 651-459-4596
 Fax 651-459-5364
 Web Site: www.saintritas.org
 Email..... stritas@saintritas.org
 Parish Council Contact.....ParishCouncil@saintritas.org.

Follow St. Rita's on Social Media:
 Facebook.com/saintritaschurch
 Instagram @saintritaschurch

Office Hours
Monday through Thursday 8:00—4:30 pm
Friday 8:00 AM to Noon
The Parish Office is closed on weekends.

Eucharistic Adoration

Thursdays - 8:30am to 5:00 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays at 4:00pm, or call the Parish Office for appt.

Baptism

Baptisms are held the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month at noon. Baptism preparation class is held on 1st Tuesday of each month. Attendance at baptism preparation class is required before scheduling a baptism date. Call as soon as possible to register for baptism preparation class.

RCIA

Contact Deacon Jack Nicklay at 651-459-4596

Marriage

Call the Parish Office to inquire. Please allow six months for marriage preparation.

Home visits

If you are homebound and would like to receive Holy Communion or have a confession heard, or would like a visit from Fr. Mark, please call the parish office at 651-459-4596.

Hospitalization

We would love to visit you if you are hospitalized. Please have a family member contact us. Confidentiality laws do not allow hospitals to notify churches.

Parish Registration

You may register at the Parish Office during office hours. Forms are also available on our web site.

Anyone wishing to serve as a volunteer in any parish event or function, who may come in contact with youth or vulnerable adults, must first complete the "Essential Three" components required by the Archdiocese: Virtus training, a background check, and a signed code of conduct. Call the parish office for more information.

Victim Assistance Hotline: 651-291-4497

If you or anyone you know has been the victim of abuse by clergy or any employee of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, your first call should be to local law enforcement authorities. Then please call the number above to report the abuse.

Mass Intentions for week of Jan 16, 2022

Sunday, Jan 16

Steffi Linson
 The Parish

Tuesday, Jan 17

Rene Sager †

Wednesday, Jan 18

Dr. Meguela "Meg" Arceldo †

Thursday, Jan 19

Gerald Thielen †

Friday, Jan 20

Souls in Purgatory †

Saturday, Jan 21

The Parish

Sunday, Jan 22

John Hansen †

Georgia Christensen †



Charitable contributions must be claimed in the year in which they are delivered. One exception is a check that is mailed to the church – it is deductible in the year the check is postmarked, even if it is received early in the next year. If we receive a check in the mail in the first week of January 2022 that is enclosed in an envelope postmarked in December, we will include that contribution in the donor's 2021 contribution statement. Any checks received in the January 1st collection or postmarked in 2022 (even if the check is dated in December) will be included in your 2022 contribution statement.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Financial Giving

Year to Date as of 12/31/2021

***YTD Actual will be updated on a monthly basis.**

Actual 2021-22 YTD.....\$422,551.88

Budget 2021-22 YTD.....(\$427,275.00)

Difference.....(\$4723.12)

MORTGAGE UPDATE

Balance as of 11/1/2022 \$687,006.53

Monthly Payment \$5,695.92

MASS TIMES

Tuesday	5:00 pm Mass
Wednesday	8:30 am
Thursday	Communion Service 8 am Adoration 8:30 am—5:00 pm followed by 5:00 pm Mass
Friday	8:30 am Mass
Saturday	5:00pm Mass
Sunday	8:30 am & 10:30 am

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