St. Benedict's Catholic Church

1419 ST. BENEDICT ST., DULUTH, MN 55811

Mass Schedule & Prayer

Weekend:
Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 am &
12:00 pm (Latin—Extraordinary Form)
Weekday: Monday-Saturday 8:00 am
(Wednesday's 8:00 am Mass is E.F.)

Reconciliation (Confession):
Confessions:
IN THE "GATHERING SPACE"
Mon - Sat: at 7:30 a.m. for 15 minutes
Fridays: 8:50—9:15 a.m.
Saturdays: 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.
Sundays: 8:15 – 8:45 a.m.
Sundays: 11:15 – 11:45 a.m.

Traveling: www.masstimes.org

Pastoral Staff

Pastor: Fr. Joel Hastings
Deacon: John Weiske
Deacon: John Specht
Deacon: Kyle Eller
Retired Deacon: Dennis Anderson
Director of Parish Engagement & Family Faith Formation: Elisabeth Cyr
Secretary/Bookkeeper: Carol Cyr
Music Director: Sandra Eller
Maintenance: Bob Meier

Parish Office

Address: 1419 St. Benedict St, Duluth 55811
Phone:(218) 724-4828
E-Mail: secretary@stbensduluth.org
Website: www.stbensduluth.org
Facebook: facebook.com/stbensduluth
Hours: Monday-Friday 9am—noon

DECEMBER 6, 2020
2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

BASICS OF CATHOLICISM: 35. HOLY MATRIMONY
PART 1: ORIGINS AND HISTORY

In the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, paragraph 1601 gives us this description of marriage: "The matrimonial covenant, by which a man and a woman establish between themselves a partnership of the whole life, is by its nature ordered toward the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of offspring; this covenant between baptized persons has been raised by Christ the Lord to the dignity of a sacrament." This description, which is also found in *Code of Canon Law*, canon 1055, provides a brief and comprehensive set of details that aid us in considering the history and origins of marriage and how it is sacramental.

As shown in the book of Genesis, God's creative work was only finished after having made human beings, male and female, in His own image and likeness. The creation story of Genesis 2 expresses in God's word that "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suited to him" (Genesis 2:18). This simple acknowledgement forms the divine basis for the reality of marriage from which flows all of the goods of marriage: the intimate union shared between a man and women, the capacity and the call to generate life - sharing in God's creative work, and the good of each person within the marriage and within the family. Though sin entered into creation, these gifts and blessings were

A voice of one crying out in the desert:
"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." Mark 1:3

Sacraments

Baptism: Baptism preparation class must be scheduled with the priest or a Deacon prior to a baptism.
Marriage: Marriage preparation must be made at least nine (9) months prior to the proposed date of the wedding.

Marriage & Family

Diocese of Duluth Marriage & Family Life: bkneepkens@dioceseduluth.org
Natural Family Planning
Here are two local options available for guidance with natural family planning:
Northland Family Programs: 786-2378
Located at St. Mary's Hospital
www.northlandfamilyprograms.com
Couple to Couple League International:
www.ccli.org Local Teaching Couple:
Brett & Meghan Jones 715-394-3060
frozenjonesfam@gmail.com

Marriage Resource Websites
www.ForYourMarriage.org
www.fathersforgood.org
www.5lovelanguages.com
www.wwmesection8.org
www.teamsofourlady.org
www.dioceseoflacrosse.com
(Go to Marriage and Family Life page)

Prayer Chain

Prayer requests? Please call Gloria Michelizzi at 728-2669 or Roy St. George at 940-5951.

Interested in becoming Catholic?

Inquire with Fr. Joel.

Stewardship of Treasure

Week of November 22
Weekly offering:.....$2,870.00
Children Collection.....$0.00
Electronic Giving.....$5,377.44
Week's Collection..... .$8,447.44

Week of November 29
Weekly offering:.....$1,943.00
Children Collection.....$0.00
Electronic Giving.....$1,670.31
Week's Collection..... .$3,613.31

YTD Stewardship goal.....$150,260.00
Amount given to date..... $133,437.93

2020 UCA goal:.....$65,308.31
Given to date..... .... $56,538.59

Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish and Diocese!!

not lost in sin, even though the consequences of sin have made living these blessings more difficult. What is clear in God's creative plan is that God himself wills the presence of married life and married love – and that such is so good that it remains even in the midst of a fallen and sinful world.

In Jesus Christ, marriage is elevated to an even higher level – one that is even greater than what Adam and Eve shared *before* sin entered the world: that of being a sacrament. Acknowledging that Jesus's first miracle (at the wedding at Cana) already points to value of marriage, this gift of God is confirmed in its goodness by, Jesus' own preaching, as especially related in Matthew 19:4-9. Here, Jesus elevates marriage to a higher level than was known even in Jewish observance – as Jesus appeals to God's plan *in the beginning* which never foresaw any legitimacy of divorce, stating that the two are no longer so, but are one such that "what God has joined together, no human being must separate" (Matthew 19:6). That *God Himself* is joining the man and woman together in marriage of itself portrays marriage as sacramental – as it is God who is accomplishing the work of uniting the couple as one.

In Ephesians 5:31-32, St. Paul further demonstrates the sacramentality of marriage both as God's work, and also as that which points toward heaven, following the same reasoning of Genesis 2:24 that is also found in Matthew 19: "For this reason a man shall leave [his] father and [his] mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." St. Paul refers in the passage to a "great mystery" in speaking in reference to the Church, in order to show how marriage symbolizes the mystery of Jesus's own love for His bride, the Church (which husbands are to imitate in giving, and wives are called to accept and receive, in imitation of the fidelity of the Church).

Accordingly, the presence of marriage between one man and one woman is firmly rooted in Christ Himself and in His saving works offered for His bride, the Church. This simple truth is the foundation upon which marriage in the Church has existed and remains.

For further reading: In the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, paragraphs 1601-1620 introduce marriage as a sacrament, speaking of its history from the beginning of creation through the New Testament teachings on marriage as a sacrament.

Fr. Joel Hastings

Feast of the Immaculate Conception December 8

Due to the pandemic, all obligation for attending Mass is lifted at this time. However, Mary under the title Immaculate Conception is the patron of our country and it is a holy and worthwhile thing to commemorate this feast by assisting at Hoy Mass. Therefore, we still have three opportunities to attend Mass this Tuesday:
8 am; 12:05 pm; and 7 pm (EF Latin)

Through the centuries the Church has become ever more aware that Mary, "full of grace" through God, was redeemed from the moment of her conception. That is what the dogma of the Immaculate Conception confesses, as Blessed Pope Pius IX proclaimed on December 8, 1854: "The most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Saviour of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of original sin." — *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Christmas Flowers

If you would like to donate to the purchase of poinsettias in memory of a loved one who has passed or in honor of those who are living, please fill out a form and submit it along with your money to the office by Dec. 20th for your request included on the list published in the bulletin.

If you would just like to donate any amount to help purchase the flowers to make our church beautiful for the coming of Our Lord, please use the envelope provided in your packet, or a plain envelope clearly marked "Christmas flowers".

Give to the Giving Tree from Home

One of the places we are supporting is the Star of the North Maternity Home. They have given us a link to an Amazon list that is specific to our parish. **You can access this link at the top of the St. Ben's website.** Have the items shipped to St Ben's and we will make sure they are delivered with the rest of the gifts.

Parish & Community Events

Family Faith Formation

The month of December is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception. Your family can live out this devotion by starting a Jesse Tree, or make a Marian candle to light on December 8th for the Feast day of Immaculate Conception. For more information and ideas to celebrate the Immaculate Conception go to catholicculture.org

Advent is upon us! Here are some ideas to make this time of waiting a time of learning, prayer, and joy for the whole family.
Blogs to check out for Advent family ideas:
catholicicing.com
catholicsprouts.com

Mitten Tree

All donations are due back by December 15th; please attach the ornament to the gift so we know where to send it. If you have a gift card please drop it off in the office. Thank you for your generosity!

Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in me a hunger for peace: peace in the world, peace in my home, peace in myself.

Festival of Lessons and Carols

The musicians of the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Rosary invite you to join them for the first annual Festival of Lessons and Carols on Monday, December 14 at 7:00 PM. Through nine lessons in word and song, join our instrumentalists and small choir to sing familiar carols and enjoy beautiful songs reflecting upon the Advent and Christmas Seasons. This year our event will be virtual, accessed via the Cathedral's livestream at duluthcathedral.com. Since we are not able to sing together in church, let this be an opportunity to participate from the comfort of your own home in whatever capacity is most meaningful to you! We hope this will offer you an evening to let Christ's light shine through the darkness and become a treasured part of your year.

Real Presence Radio Virtual Banquet

Are you going to miss the Real Presence Radio fundraising banquet this year? We've got great news!!! Presence Radio is hosting a virtual fundraising event on Thursday, December 10th! The event will feature Dr. Ray Guarendi as keynote. Host of "The Dr. Is In," Dr. Ray is a Catholic father of ten adopted children, a clinical psychologist, author and comic!
If you are interested in attending as a guest or hosting a watch party from your home, please register online at RealPresenceRadio.com/banquet or call 877-795-0122. Sponsorship packages are available at the $250, $500, $1,000, $5,000 or higher levels. For more information or to sponsor, email Jessica at jessica@realpresenceradio.com!

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Collection for Retirement Fund for Religious

In good times and bad, senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious priests have dedicated themselves to service and acts of mercy. Today, they pray for an aching world. Yet years of service for little or no pay have left their religious communities without enough retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous. Please return envelopes in the next few weeks.

East Duluth Faith Formation

During this season of Advent, many of us do things to prepare for our celebration at Christmas. The Gospel for the 2nd week of Advent tells us how John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus. He preached repentance and baptized people as a sign of forgiveness of sins. One of the things that the Church invites us to do during the season of Advent is to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. During Advent, we seek forgiveness for our sins and look for ways in which we can be better followers of Jesus. Many of the churches in the Duluth area have special Advent opportunities for us to partake in. As a family consider attending these celebrations as a way to help prepare your family for the coming of Christ at Christmas. Let us also take a moment to pray for our First Reconciliation students who will be making their First Reconciliation in the upcoming weeks. May they know God's love and forgiveness that he has for them.
We can learn to recognize Jesus' presence in our world because we have learned about Jesus from the Bible and from the Church. Our middle school and high school faith formation students have some great Advent opportunities coming up during our classes on December 9th & 16th. Both classes will be held at the Cathedral from 7 PM - 8:30 PM.
God bless, Sonya Morris

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Lloyd Ethier who passed on to eternal life on November 21 and whose funeral was held at St. Benedict's on November 28th. Eternal rest grant unto him Oh Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.

Middle and High School Essay Contest

The annual Respect Life Essay Contest sponsored by the department of Marriage, Family and Life of the Diocese of Duluth has begun. This year's theme is "Live the Gospel of Life." Students in middle school, grades 5-8, and high-school, grades 9-12, are eligible. All submissions should be postmarked by Dec. 18th. Prize amounts are higher this year since COVID has messed up almost everything else (1st prize is $150, 2nd is $75, and 3rd is $50). You may also see the guidelines and poster found under "Links" at https://www.dioceseduluth.org/marriage-and-family-life

St. Michael's Christmas Tree Sales

St. Michael's Church, 4901 E Superior St Duluth, will be selling Christmas trees, wreaths and sprays beginning Saturday, November 28th. High quality Spruce, Balsam Fir, Norway Pine and White Pine trees, along with wreaths and sprays will be available. Weekdays 10 am to 7 pm (attendant available to help from 5-7 pm) Saturday's 9 am-5 pm, Sunday's 11 am to 5 pm. All proceeds support the mission and ministries of the parish.

Readings and Saints this Week

Sunday, December 6 **Second Sunday of Advent**
Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; Psalm 85:9-14;
2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8

Monday, December 7 **St. Ambrose**
Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 85:9-14; Luke 5:17-26

Tuesday, December 8 **The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Psalm 98:1-4;
Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 10:26-38

Wednesday, December 9 **St. Juan Diego**
Isaiah 40:25-31; Psalm 103:1-4, 8, 10;
Matthew 11:28-30

Thursday, December 10 **Advent Weekday**
Isaiah 41:13-20; Psalm 145:1, 9-13; Matthew 11:11-15

Friday, December 11 **St. Damasus I**
Isaiah 48:17-19; Psalm 1:1-4, 6; Matthew 11:16-19

Saturday, December 12 **Our Lady of Guadalupe**
Zechariah 2:14-17 or Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab;
Judith 13:18-19; Luke 1:26-38 or 1:39-47

Sunday, December 13 **Third Sunday of Advent Gaudete Sunday**
Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11; Luke 1:46-50, 53-54;
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

Liturgy Support

December 12/13

Readers	5:00 pm	Georgiann Kuberra
	9:00 am	Larry Birnbaum

Pray for Vocations

December 6
Father Steven Daigle
Father Timothy Deutsch
Father John Doyle
Deacon Rodger Brannan
Deacon David Brown
Luke O'Reilly (Sem.)

December 7
Father William Fider
Father Justin Fish
Father Charles Flynn
Deacon James Clack
Deacon David Craig
Scott Padrnos (sem)

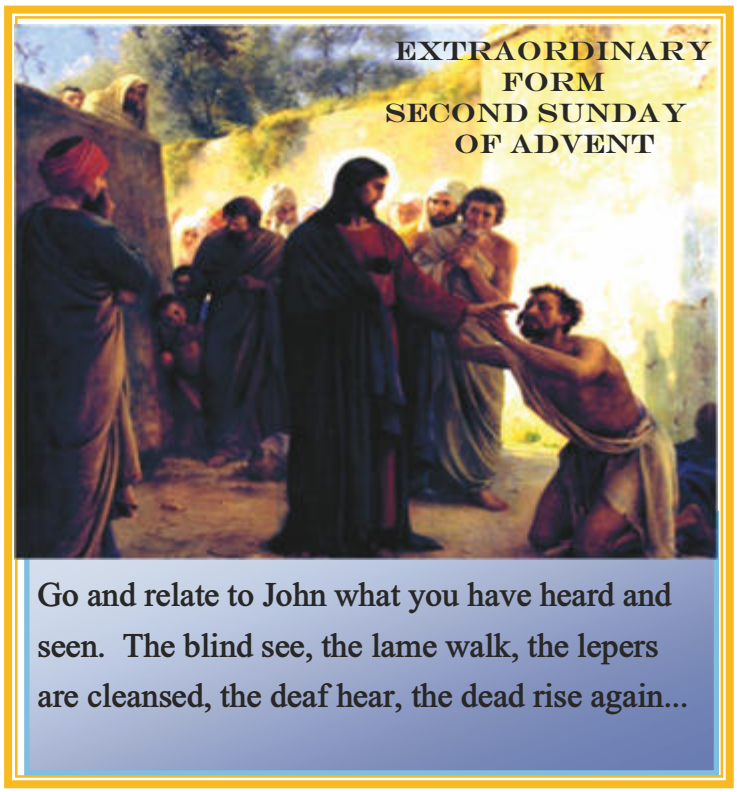
December 8
Father David Forsman
Father Thomas Foster
Father William Fournier
Dcn. Joseph DesMarais
Deacon Timothy Egan
Treavor Peterson (sem)

December 9
Father Charles Friebohle
Father Albert Paul Fruth
Father Ronald Gagne
Deacon Mike Eisenbraum
Deacon Kyle Eller
Peter Specht (sem)

December 10
Father Thomas Galarneault
Father Michael Garry
Father Elias Gieske
Deacon Jack Ferris
Deacon John Foucault
Jacob Toma (sem)

December 11
Father Seth Gogolin
Father Benjamin Hadrich
Father Joel Hastings
Deacon Thomas Freece
Deacon Daniel Goshey
Jacob Tschida (Sem.)

December 12
Father Dennis Hoffman
Father Lawrence Johnson
Father Andy Knop, OMI
Deacon Keith Grow



Advent- Prepare for Jesus Christ coming in History, Mystery, and Majesty

Advent is the season of expectation of the Christ, and is somewhat penitential in tone. ...the first two weeks focus on Jesus' final coming as Lord and judge. The final eight days anticipate his coming in history, his birth 2000 years ago. (The Catholic Source Book)

When the Church celebrates the *liturgy of Advent* each year, she makes present the ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Savior's first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming. (CCC 524)

Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 6
†Bob Williamson
People of St. Benedict's

Monday, December 7
Marianne and Marshall Fightlin (on their anniversary)

Tuesday, December 8
People of St. Benedict's
Beth Bigelow
Our country

Wednesday, December 9
†Marleys Schmitt

Thursday, December 10
†David Shearen

Friday, December 11
Parishioners suffering from Covid

Saturday, December 12
Orphans
Ron Sternal

Sunday, December 13
†Mark Waterhouse
People of St. Benedict's

The Sacred Heart Candle is lit this week for *Beth Bigelow.*

The Marian Candle is lit this week for *Marianne and Marshall Fightlin.*

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