

Catholic Communities of

St. John & St. Benedict

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH – WOODLAND
3 W. Chisholm St. • Duluth, MN 55803

Masses

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday... 8:00am
Saturday.....5:00 pm
Sunday.....10:30am

Reconciliation

Monday-Wednesday.....7:30am
Saturday.....4:00 pm

ST. BENEDICT'S CHURCH-KENWOOD

1419 St. Benedict Street, Duluth MN 55811

Masses

Thursday & Friday.....8:00 am
Saturday.....8:30 am
Sunday.....8:30 am
Sunday (Extraordinary Form).....1:00 pm

Reconciliation

Thursday, Friday, Sunday.....7:30am

PARISH STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Seth Gogolin.....724-6332
Email.....fr.seth.gogolin@duluthcatholic.org

Deacons

Walter Beier.....724-0361
E-mail.....walterpb@charter.net

John Weiske.....724-4828
E-mail....dcn.john.weiske@duluthcatholic.org

John Specht.....724-4828
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Kyle Eller.....724-4828
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Parish Secretary/Bookkeeper

Anny Goeb.....724-6332
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Music Director/Liturgical Assistant

Michelle Kessler.....724-6332
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**Faith Formation Director
East End Parishes**

Sonya Morris.....724-6332
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School Principal

Jesse Murray.....724-9392
Email...jesse.murray@stellamaris.academy

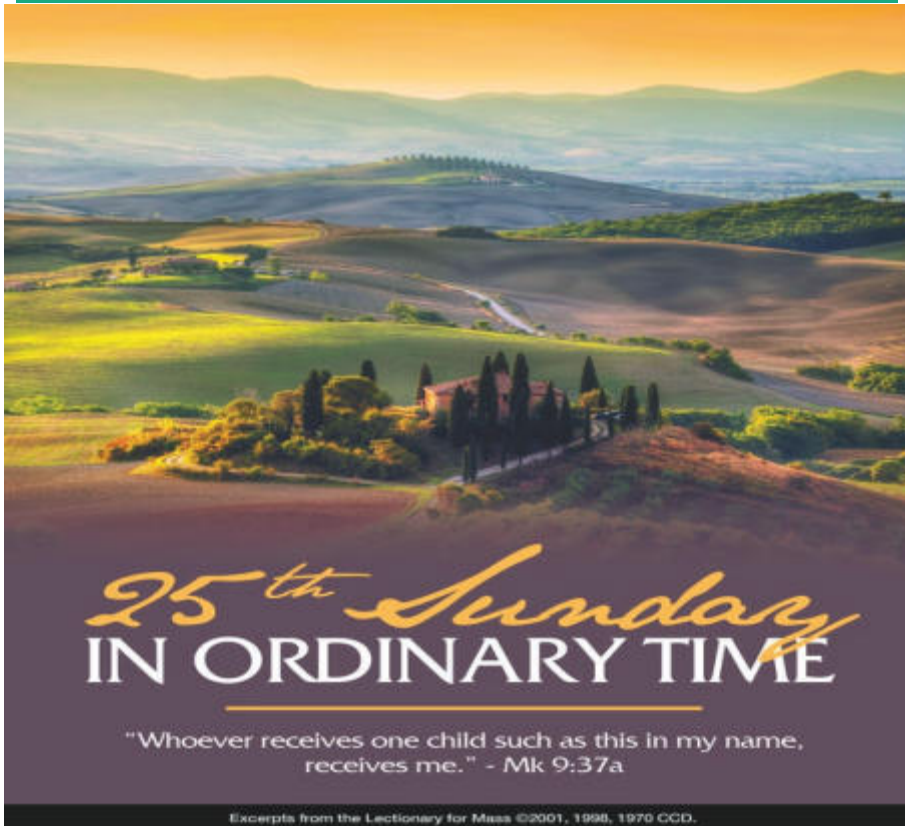
TELEPHONE NUMBERS

St. John's Parish Office.....724-6332
St. Benedict's Parish Office.....724-4828
School Office/Church hall.....724-9392

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday.....8:30-4:30pm

SEPTEMBER 19, 2021—TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME



WEBSITES

St. John's.....www.saintjohnsduluth.org
St. Benedict's.....stbensduluth.org
School.....www.stellamaris.academy

SACRAMENTS

Baptisms: Call the parish office.

Weddings: All weddings must be arranged at least 6 months prior to date.

Duluth, Minnesota

News from Fr. Seth

It's the middle of September which means it is about time for another year of Faith Formation to begin. I am grateful for all of the work Sonya Morris did last year taking on coordinating the entire program for all of the parishes on the East Side of Duluth, especially with all of the restrictions we had placed on us with Covid. In addition to Sonya, I am excited that Grace Woitalla has joined our Faith Formation team this year. Sonya will continue coordinating the elementary grades, but Grace will be taking on coordinating our middle school and high school grades.

This coming Wednesday, September 22nd, we will have a Mass for all Faith Formation families at the Cathedral which will take place at 6:00pm. Following the Mass we will have a parent meeting, and there will be an additional quick meeting right after the main parent meeting for families who have a child going through Sacramental Preparation for First Reconciliation, and First Holy Communion.

The following week, on Wednesday, September 29th, the Faith Formation year begins! Registration has been posted on all parish websites, but if you have not yet visited the registration page, there is an easy web address. Just type into your browser: <https://www.smores.com/wxt09> This will bring you right to the registration page. Please don't hesitate to contact Sonya or Grace with any questions. Their email addresses are sonya.morris@duluthcatholic.org and grace.woitalla@duluthcatholic.org.

We have made some good adjustments to the program this year such as having all middle school and high school students together at one site. We have separated the Sacramental Prep classes into parish clusters, and except when in level 4 of the diocesan Faith Formation Covid protocols, there will be a meal provided 4:45-6:45pm at the Cathedral which is open for all families to attend.

St. Benedict will have their elementary program on the first Sunday of the month from after the 8:30am Mass - 11:30am. St. John will have their elementary program on Wednesdays from 5:45-6:45pm. The middle school and high school program will be on Wednesdays at Holy Rosary from 7:00-8:30pm. I am looking forward to this year of Faith Formation, I hope you are too!

The other topic I'd like to briefly mention is that **October 17-28, 2022** I will be leading a pilgrimage to Poland with Fr. Tony Wroblewski. We were scheduled

to have this pilgrimage back in May of 2020, but of course international travel - especially with groups - was not possible at that time. There are some flyers up at both of our parishes along with copies of the flyer to take. So take a look and call Anny at St. John's if you are interested in getting the brochure when it is made available. We will just need your name and email address, and we can send you the brochure electronically as soon as it becomes available. If you'd prefer a copy to be mailed to you, please give your mailing address. Brochures will be available at the end of November.

Poland is my favorite place to go on pilgrimage not only for the beauty of the country and the churches, and not to mention the delicious food, but most of all because of the faith which is still very active and present in the Polish people. I hope many of you will consider this pilgrimage as an opportunity to be strengthened in your faith as well.

God Bless. - Fr. Seth

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Stewardship

for the Week of September 12, 2021

St. John's	\$4,240.00
Donations thru Auto Draw	\$1,320.00
Weekly Total	\$5,560.00

Weekly Budget \$8076.00

Ministry Schedule

for the Week of September 25 & 26, 2021

ST. JOHN'S

Readers

5:00 pm	Dr. Janyne Althaus
10:30 am	Natasha Deneau

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION... Thursday, Sept. 23

9-10am	Betty Ostrowski/Barb LaFlamme
10-11am	Ginny Oberg/Abby Rowe
11-12noon	Ginny Randolph/Angie Meyer
12-1pm	Michelle Kessler/Jeanne Anderson
1-2pm	Bob Nordland/Michelle Kessler
2-3pm	Mary & Steve Koszarek
3-4pm	Kathy Bomey/Catherine Zeis
4-5pm	Barb Werner/Kelly Weingart
5-6pm	Kristen Fish/Terry Davis
6-7pm	Tina Posch/Maron & Mike Krois
7-8pm	Dan Pope/Karen Paul



Happenings at St. John's

...**John Paul II Book Group**—meets on Tuesday mornings at 9:00am in the Gathering Space. We read different genres of excellent Catholic literature and many saint stories. (No homework!!) A great way for some social gathering. Please come and share with us.

..**Praying the Rosary**—here at St. John's we pray the rosary before the 5:00pm and 10:30am Mass. We are in need of leaders to say the rosary. There is a sign up sheet in the Gathering Space. Let us know what Mass works best for you and we can put together a schedule so that you do not have to lead every weekend. Feel free to call the parish office also.

...**SECOND ANNUAL MARRIAGE RETREAT** will be held at St. John's on October 9th from 9-4pm. We will discuss the family as a "domestic church" and how our homes ought to be furnaces of God's love. Payment may be submitted to St. Benedict Church: 1419 St. Benedict St., Duluth, Mn 55811. Checks should be made out to St. Benedict Church with "marriage retreat" in the memo. Childcare is available on site, but space is limited. Please contact Elisabeth Cyr at elisabeth.cyr@duluthcatholic.org to reserve a spot for your child/ren. Potty trained children only, \$5 fee per child. Nursing babies are welcome.

In the Community

40 DAYS FOR LIFE/DULUTH FALL CAMPAIGN starts with a rally on Tuesday, September 21st. Fr. Tony Wroblewski will celebrate Mass at 5pm followed by refreshments at the Women's Care Center at 103 E. 1st Street, Duluth. This will be followed by praise and worship outside the WE Health Clinic abortuary in the Building for Women at 32 E. 1st Street at 7pm. The Prayer Vigil will run from 8:00am-8:00pm outside the Building for Women from September 22-October 31st. Prayer Warriors can sign up at 40daysforlife.com/Duluth or contact Paulette at 218-348-1345 or 40daysduluth@gmail.com. Please come to the rally on the 21st and sign up to be a Prayer Warrior. Join us to defend the culture of life.

BIBLE STUDY WITH FR. RICH—Mondays, 9:00am at St. James, starting October 11th. Studying Phillipines, Colossians & Phlemon. If you do not have a copy of this Ignatius Catholic Study Guide, call Sam at St. James office 624-0125 to reserve your copy.

THINKING ABOUT BECOMING CATHOLIC—informational session Thursday, October 7th, 6:30pm, at the Cathedral. Contact Fr. Seth if interested.

GRIEF EDUCATIONAL / SUPPORT GROUP—beginning Monday, October 4th at the Cathedral, 6-7:30pm. To sign up or if you have questions, contact Bridget at 724-8597 or 348-8593.

Here I Am; Send Me (from the Laity)

No Hard Stops

In the world of computers, "hard stops" are parts in the program that absolutely prevent you from doing certain things, like leaving a space blank, or entering a wrong number. When it comes to human nature, though, there are no hard stops. All of us, because of Original Sin, have the potential for cruelty and depravity. While we'd like to think that there are some sins that we might (or do) commit, but others that we never would, that we would never go as far as *that*, it's simply not true. The nature that has us going to church on Sundays is the same nature that had terrorists flying into the Twin Towers on 9/11/01.

We, too, can fall into the Kevin Costner syndrome, named after the actor purported to have many affairs. His womanizing and having children out of wedlock is appalling, but if anyone of us was that handsome, talented, rich, and had women offering themselves up while promising no consequences, which of us would not do the same? How much of our own moral uprightness comes not from our virtue but merely lack of opportunity or fear of reprisal?

Does this mean, then, that we can never speak up against another's sinning? No. Wrong is still wrong, and it needs to be called such. Are we hypocrites if we speak up, knowing we might have done (or are doing) the same? Here is where what is hidden must be revealed, for you need to know whether you are saying, "Yes, I probably would have done that too in your position, but it's still wrong," or whether we are saying, "That's wrong, and I would never do that."

The saints knew this all too keenly. Saints were not people who never sinned; they were people who know better than most their own potential for sinning. As they ascended the heights of holiness, the guard rails disappeared and the paths thinned out, enabling them to see - and feel - how close they were to lurching into the abyss of sin. As the path grew steeper, they knew how easily they could succumb to the siren song of their desires and temptations. Fully did they understand as they teetered on the edge, "There, but for the grace of God, go I."

There are no hard stops in human nature. Only the grace of God keeps us from committing the most abominable sin we can imagine, a good reminder when the splinter in another's eye begins to look different from the wooden beam in our own (cf Mt 7:3-5).

Feedback? Ideas? Want to contribute? Contact Dr. Althaus at janyne@earthlink.net

Faith Formation

Conversations such as the one described in today's Gospel are common in family life. Perhaps your family may have arguments or bickering such as: "I should get the first piece of cake because I am the youngest;" "I did the dishes yesterday; someone else should do them today." Sometimes our children are very concerned about being popular among their peers. Sometimes they compare themselves to other people or make judgments about others based on popularity. In today's Gospel, we learn that Jesus doesn't want people to compare themselves to one another. Instead, he says that we should be focused on one thing only, that when we serve the least ones among us, we serve Jesus himself.

How might we respond if Jesus asked about our family arguments? What would Jesus say to us in reply? All of us need the reminder found in today's Gospel, that to be great in God's Kingdom is to be the servant of all.

Jesus teaches us in today's Gospel that God does not care how popular we are. He doesn't care if you are famous or if you have an important job. There is only one thing that is important in God's view of us: Have we served others generously with love?

Jesus helps to teach us what is most important. It is not having the best things or being the best at something, it is when we freely and lovingly serve others. That is when we are great in God's eyes.

Children may be surprised to learn that what makes us great in God's kingdom is different from what our society considers great or important. In seeking to establish themselves in the community beyond the family, young people often compare themselves with their peers. We can help them understand that greatness in God's eyes is measured by the service we give to others. We can help them learn that as Christians we have a different set of criteria for greatness, if we serve other people with love.

Faith Formation registration is open, visit your parish website for the link to our Faith Formation page with registration and more detailed information for the upcoming year.

God Bless,
Sonya

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, September 20		NO MASS
Tuesday, September 21	8:00 am Mass	Bill Johnson
Wednesday, September 22	8:00am Mass	Mary Anderson
Thursday, September 23	8:00 am Mass	at St. Benedict
Friday, September 24	8:00 am Mass	at St. Benedict
Saturday, September 25	8:30am Mass 5:00pm Mass	at St. Benedict Mary Joppa
Sunday, September 26	8:30am Mass 10:30am Mass 1:00pm Mass	at St. Benedict Parishioners Extraordinary Form at St. Benedict

Readings

For the week of September 19, 2021

- Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 [6b]/Jas 3:16-4:3/
Mk 9:30-37
- Monday: Ezr 1:1-6/Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Lk 8:16-18
- Tuesday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Mt 9:9-13
- Wednesday: Ezr 9:5-9/Tb 13:2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8 [1b]/Lk 9:1-6
- Thursday: Hg 1:1-8/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Lk 9:7-9
- Friday: Hg 2:1-9/Ps 43:1, 2, 3, 4 [5]/Lk 9:18-22
- Saturday: Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13 [cf. 10d]/Lk 9:43b-45
- Next Sunday: Nm 11:25-29/Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14 [9a]/Jas 5:1-6/Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

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Theology Uncapped - due to Covid restrictions, the September event has been moved to the Greysolon Ballroom. Doors open at 5:30pm with a revised menu and a full cash bar. See website for more information, www.theologyuncapped.org.

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