

September 12, 2021

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FOLLOW

“Whoever wishes to
come after me must deny
himself, take up his cross,
and follow me.” - Mk 8:34b

HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

515 South Albert Street Saint Paul, MN 55116 | (651) 698-3353 | holy-spirit.org

Holy Spirit Catholic Community enkindles the fire of God's love in our lives through worship, discipleship and service.

Tues.-Fri. 7:30 a.m. Mass • Sat. 3-4 p.m. Confessions & 4:30 p.m. Mass • Sunday 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. Mass

MASS INTENTIONS

September 12, 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time & Grandparents Day

8:30 a.m. Women of Holy Spirit

10:30 a.m. Holy Spirit parish

September 13, St. John Chrysostom

September 14, The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

7:30 a.m. Austin Gram

Ronda Carler

September 15, Our Lady of Sorrows

7:30 a.m. Carol Dittelt

Mike & Stephanie

September 16, Pope St. Cornelius and St. Cyprian

7:30 a.m. 25th Anniversary - Peach Family

September 17, St. Robert Bellarmine

7:30 a.m. Those suffering from addiction

September 18, Blessed Virgin Mary

4:30 p.m. Janish family

Those who have lost a child

Helen Snow†

September 19, 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. Virginia & Tom Modl†

Greg & Jeanette Schuellert

10:30 a.m. Marguerite Baker Figeroid†

COFFEE & DONUTS

Join friends on Oct. 3 in Howley Hall after Masses for a sweet treat and fellowship. Coffee & Donuts will be offered on the first Sunday of each month through May.



MEN'S CLUB KICK-OFF DINNER

Our 2021 kick-off dinner will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 15 at 6 p.m. at Mancini's (531 7th Street West). We hope you join us! Pay for dinner and 21-22 dues at holy-spirit.org/mens-club. The cost for dinner is \$35.

Men's Club provides activities, fellowship, goodwill, harmony, and social events for the men of Holy Spirit church and school. All men, ages 18 and up, are encouraged to join! If you are new to Holy Spirit, Men's Club is a great way to meet new people and get involved with helping our community.



Forming Faith as a Family

Register now for Family Formation! Through engaging, down-to-earth, and easy to understand lessons and activities, Family Formation brings parishes and families together to grow their faith with excitement. With home and in-person lessons, this shared learning experience develops traditions that overflow into everyday life! The first session is on Saturday, Oct. 9. Register today at holy-spirit.org/ktfb.

RCIA

Do you know someone who is interested in taking the next step to become Catholic? The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) process is designed to help anyone discover the riches of Catholicism. Interested participants should contact Christopher at menzhuberc@holy-spirit.org.

First Reconciliation & Communion

The mystery of the Eucharist unites those who receive with each other and with Christ. That same encounter with Christ in the Eucharist moves us to mission and evangelization.

First Reconciliation will be held on Thursday, Dec. 9.
First Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, May 1.
Register at holy-spirit.org/reconciliation or holy-spirit.org/communion.

Confirmation

The gift of the Holy Spirit is sealed by the sacrament of Confirmation. Those who receive this sacrament are strengthened by grace to respond to God's call.

Register at holy-spirit.org/confirmation. Confirmation will be celebrated at the Cathedral of Saint Paul on Thursday, May 5 at 7 p.m.

COMING SOON: SMALL GROUPS

In the last two years, the archdiocese has collected feedback from participants through prayer and listening sessions. Archbishop Hebda has asked each parish to reflect on three areas of focus: 1) forming parishes that are in the service of evangelization; 2) forming missionary disciples who know Jesus' love and respond to his call; and 3) forming youth and young adults in and for a Church that is always young. Holy Spirit small groups will meet on the following dates:



Thursdays - 7 p.m.

- Sept. 30
- Oct. 7
- Oct. 14
- Oct. 28
- Nov. 4
- Nov. 11

Saturdays - 10 a.m.

- Oct. 2
- Oct. 9
- Oct. 16
- Oct. 30
- Nov. 6
- Nov. 13

Visit archspm.org/synod for more information on this phase of the Synod process. If you have questions about small groups at Holy Spirit, please email Christopher at menzhuberc@holy-spirit.org. Small group sign-ups will take place after Masses the weekend of Sept. 18–19.

LIVE THE LITURGY

Rest in the presence of God simply because God is God and you are you. This is all that is necessary. Out of this relationship will come inspiration, understanding, courage, constancy, truth, and virtues of all kind. We will find ourselves knowing the true meaning of things and developing a depth of insight that is not found following purely human venues. It is God who inspires and opens human hearts to see truth and beauty. In God, we understand all of our relationships with a richer appreciation and come to know who Jesus, who speaks of God's kingdom, really is. The trust that is fostered from resting with the Divine One allows us to see that God's ways are not our ways. There is something bigger going on in this picture of life. It is something mystical and magical that seeks to surprise us at every turn. It is not for us to cling to this world and its limitations. Our adventure is to dream bigger and brighter, realizing that it is even in suffering that the radiant light of the dawn will come. God's ways allow for our paths to be rocky, challenging, difficult, and even crippling at times. Purely human eyes cannot understand the 'why' of such experiences. The eyes and mind of God, however, reveal and detail a journey that ends in glorious resurrection joy. When we lose our axis and become too human in our thinking, Jesus rebukes us and gently reminds us how to see.

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

Annual Mass for Persons with Disabilities

Sept. 19, 3 p.m.

St. Mary's Chapel, Seminaries of Saint Paul

Mass includes celebration the Sacrament of Confirmation for persons with disabilities who have completed Confirmation classes. This year's celebrant will be Archbishop Hebda. Sing-along begins at 2:30 p.m.; Mass at 3 p.m. (including a sign language interpreter). Stay for socialization and light refreshments after Mass.

Padre Pio Relics Display

Sept. 25-26

Saint John the Evangelist, Little Canada

Come and experience the first-class relics of Saint Padre Pio! Join us for this display anytime noon-8 p.m. on Saturday, then come and hear all about this great saint and his stigmata at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, where there will be free food and childcare for kids ages 0-5, and a service project for vets for older kids. Learn more at sjolc.org/discipleship-sunday.

Mass of Solidarity and World Day of Migrants and Refugees

Sept. 26, 3 p.m.

Cathedral of Saint Paul

This year the Mass of Solidarity will be held on Immigration Sunday Minnesota and the World Day of Migrants and Refugees. This year's theme is, "Toward an Ever Wider 'We.'"

Visit MNCatholic.org/ImmigrationSunday to learn more about this celebration and find resources for use at your parish.

Night of Light

Oct. 8, 6-9 p.m.

InterContinental Hotel, St. Paul

The Night of Light is the metro area's premier fundraising event providing K-8 children a chance to reach their full potential through the life-changing benefits of a Catholic education. The gala will help support the Aim Higher Foundation's tuition-assistance, scholarships. Visit nightoflight.info.



EXTENDED DAY IS HIRING

We are looking for high school workers for our Extended Day program!

Extended Day provides after school care to students in grades K-5. Workers will supervise age-appropriate activities and maintain a safe environment. Shifts are 3-5:30 p.m. on school days. Applicants must be 15 years or older. Email Jan at extendeddayhs@holy-spirit.org if interested.

WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

Question: I've noticed that when I go to Mass at different parishes, sometimes people say and do different things. Why is that?

Answer: The Mass in its current form has taken shape over the course of 2,000 years. Over time, traditions, structures, and prayers have been put into place. There are certain rubrics for the Mass that are normative wherever you go. This means you could attend Mass in Malawi or Thailand or Italy and still watch the same basic liturgy unfold, even if you don't understand the language. There may be some cultural differences from place to place, things that aren't specifically listed. For example, in the United States most people go up for Communion in a nice neat line. In Europe, everyone gets up around the same time. It's a bit of a free-for-all!

Some people might take it upon themselves to change things individually. People may not like something that feels too "liberal" or "conservative," and they may take a well-meaning stance in the opposite direction. When people (including the presiders) do things that are distracting or change the liturgy, it introduces an element that breaks the unity of the assembled community. The important thing to remember is that we gather as the Body of Christ to celebrate the Eucharist. If you are confused, ask! If you are frustrated, pray for the spirit of charity.



GOSPEL MEDITATION

We need to get our bearings straight and properly lay life's cornerstone. Otherwise, the rest of our journey will be skewed, and our judgment clouded. We can recall Jesus' famous rebuke of Peter, "You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." Even he, as one of Jesus' closest friends struggles with understanding things and grasping the big picture. Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955) a renowned and learned French Jesuit priest often has these words attributed to him: "We are not human beings having a spiritual experience. We are spiritual beings having a human experience." Whether they were actually from his lips, they certainly mimic his thought. These wise words orient us and capture the essence of who we really are.



Many people consider spirituality an option. It is no wonder that they come to this conclusion when they predominantly define themselves using human terms and concepts. Immersed in this world view, they struggle finding any semblance of God because God does not work according to human expectations! This is especially true when suffering and death enter life's picture. If we are only human beings having a spiritual experience, then we wrongly expect our spirituality to serve us as we desire. The human expectation is that my spiritual life is something that is useful in avoiding pain, hardship, and death, not something that gives the courage to live through it!

So, when we protest and get upset with God because our journey is becoming difficult, painful, treacherous, disappointing, and even pointing us toward death, Jesus rebukes us as he did Peter and gently reminds us how to see. It is God who inspires and opens hearts to see truth and beauty. In God, the true meaning of things is understood, and we receive a depth of insight and understanding that is not found following purely human paths. It is not our task to understand God, as God is beyond human understanding. Ours is the joyful privilege of simply resting in God's presence simply because God is God and we are who we are. As spiritual beings having an exciting and adventurous human experience, it is in our DNA to do so. Through prayer we can let go and let be. This is how we lose our lives but then save them.

Can You Walk the Walk?

I've met and talked with enough people to feel confident that if you polled 100 fallen-away Catholics about why they didn't want anything to do with the Church, the term "accountability" would pop up in almost all of their answers.

And to be fair, a lack of accountability isn't just a Catholic problem. Talking the talk but not walking the walk has been a shortcoming handed down throughout the ages, across all creeds and nationalities.

Loving our neighbor, welcoming the stranger, clothing the naked, feeding the poor — it all sounds fantastic, especially when we're the ones saying it. But the doing — well, that's a different story, isn't it? We would do well to remember that Christ calls one of his best friends "Satan" when Peter tries to convince Jesus to stray from his destiny.

Have you ever been called Satan by one of your good buddies? I'll bet it's not a great feeling. But think about

what Peter was doing. He had just said, "You are the Christ." And now, mere moments later, he's saying: "Don't say these things. Don't say you're going to suffer. Don't say you'll be killed."

He was telling Christ to squander what the Lord had given him. He was telling him that having faith was fine, but being faithful? It's just a little too hard. God has a destiny for you, too, and He's asking you to be open to it. Maybe it's not in your comfort zone. Maybe you don't think you can do it.

Lord, give us faith — but help us, also, to do the work.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS





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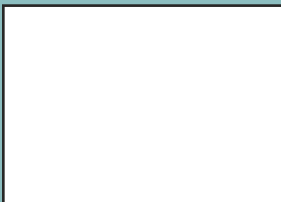
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