

November 28, 2021 • *First Sunday of Advent*

# THE CHURCH OF SAINT MARY

W e l c o m i n g   a l l   s i n c e   1 8 6 5

## MISSION STATEMENT

To share the gifts God has entrusted us by "being Christ to one another" through welcoming, comforting, healing and teaching in loving service of our brothers and sisters, mindful of His unconditional love for all His children.



**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday  
OF ADVENT**

### Sunday 1030 am Mass

**Entrance:** #496, Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

**Introit:** To You, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.

**Psalm:**

**Refrain:** To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me; teach me your paths, Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my savior, and for you I wait all the day. **Refrain**

Good and upright is the LORD; thus he shows sinners the way. He guides the humble to justice, and teaches the humble his way.

**Refrain**

All the paths of the LORD are kindness and constancy toward those who keep his covenant and his decrees. The friendship of the LORD is with who fear him, and his covenant, for their instruction. **Refrain**

**Offertory:** *Schola*

**Communion Antiphon:** The Lord will Bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

**Communion;** *Schola*

**Recessional:** #482, People Look East

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**Religious Education Director,**

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### **Music Coordinator,**

Mary Ann ([music@stmarystpaul.org](mailto:music@stmarystpaul.org))

**Lead Cantor and Music Coordinator**

Emma Arachtingi

## **BULLETIN DEADLINE**

Monday 12:00 pm

**Archdiocesan Victim Assistance Hotline 651-291-4497**

### **Reconciliation:**

Mon. - Fri. 11:30 am - 11:50 am

Sat. 3:30 pm - 4:20 pm and by appointment

### **Baptism & Marriage:**

Call Pastor for arrangements

### **Mass Schedule:**

#### **Weekend:**

Saturday 4:30 pm;

Sunday 7:30 am & 10:30 am

**Weekdays:** Mon. - Fri. 12:00 pm

**Holy Days:** 12:00 pm & 5:30 pm



## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, 27th

4:30 pm Marcia Lowe†

### Sunday, 28th

7:30 am Margaret Medina†

10:30 am Don Gravlun†

### Monday, 29th

12:00 pm Xaiver and Rose Jeyarajan  
and Marina Nicholast

### Tuesday, 30th

12:00 pm Ints. of Debby Heymans

### Wednesday, 12/1

12:00 pm Ints. of Dave & Diane Howard

### Thursday, 12/2

12:00 pm Howard Albright†

### Friday, 12/3

12:00 pm David Heymans†

### Next Saturday, 12/4

4:30 pm Larry Schloert†

### Next Sunday, 12/5

7:30 am William Zinniewicz†

10:30 am Bill, Bev, Colleen  
and Tommy McDonough†

† Denotes deceased

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

### Sunday:

Jer 33:14-16/1 Thes 3:12—4:2/Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 [1b]/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

### Monday:

Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

### Tuesday:

Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [10]/Mt 4:18-22

### Wednesday:

Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [6cd]/Mt 15:29-37

### Thursday:

Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a [26a]/Mt 7:21, 24-27

### Friday:

Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [1a]/Mt 9:27-31

### Saturday:

Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. Is 30:18d]/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

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## FROM THE PASTORS

### *Keeping Hope Alive: We Carry in Our Hearts the Expectation of the Nations*

Some years ago I developed an idiosyncratic answer to the commonly used American greeting, “How’s it going?” This question is almost never asked seriously, as if in a brief, chance encounter we sincerely expect to receive a summary report on the important issues of someone’s life. It’s just a way we have of saying hello. But at some point, instead of answering with the typical “just fine” or “it’s going alright”, I took to saying “keeping hope alive!” Perhaps it was just a way for me to prod others to move away from the standard small-talk, or to elicit some sort of authentic reaction, to inject a bit of surprise into the otherwise mundane routine of thoughtless greeting that marks our day-to-day interactions with others. I haven’t done this for quite awhile, since I suppose this unorthodox utterance eventually seemed just as stale to me as anything else I might say. And that’s the way of everyday language, I suppose.

I do think back wryly on this my small attempt at not being boring or conventional, and the reactions I tended to receive. It’s as if the exhortation to “keep hope alive” struck a chord of recognition in people, as if they thought “that’s right! How can I live without hope?!”

Why do we need to live in hope? Because we know well that the happiness we seek is just what we’re *seeking*, not what we already possess. And the longer we’re alive on this earth the more heavily it weighs upon us that our happiness is just around some corner, just over some bend, but never in our hands. I’m a desiring and wishing being by nature. But I need more than mere wishes. Desire must lead to fulfillment or otherwise it is meaningless and life in this world can come to seem like a cruel joke played upon me by the powers-that-be, even by God himself.

Christian faith unlocks the door that allows us to pass from mere wishing and desire and all the threatened disappointment that comes with it (the anxiety caused in me by the fear that my wishes won’t come true) to real, founded hope in a happiness that truly awaits me. Christian faith gives us evidence that God is not cold and aloof from us, that he has not given us the promise of some happiness that can never be fulfilled, but rather that he has come close to us, come among us as one of us, in order to show us a glimpse of what awaits, in order to show us that he has not left us alone but that he has involved himself in his creation so as to bring it to its proper fulfillment, the supernatural fulfillment of all the desiring and wishing that constitutes our nature and otherwise makes up our life on this earth.

(continued on page 3)

This is the meaning of the Incarnation. In the season of Advent the Church invites us to begin again the journey of hope. Not mere irrational or thoughtless “wishing upon a star” but rational hoping on the true star of the nations, the star of Bethlehem. If we give ourselves to this beautiful season, we will find again the joy of living the journey of faith, the faith in the child of Bethlehem who makes us ready for the next world and gives us the power whereby we can live well and joyfully in this one. And others need to see this hope in us. It is the mission of the Church to witness to the world that hope can be more than mere wishing, more than reliance on fallible human resources. To give that witness we must have our own hope renewed. Now is the season.

- Fr. Hagan

### ADDITIONAL OPERATIONS FUND COLLECTION

**Next Weekend!** We will be taking a second collection for the Additional Operations Fund (AOF) for the month of December. If you mail your donation to the parish office, please note on the payment that it is for the Additional Operations Fund (AOF). You may also donate online thru our website. Your continued support and generosity to this fund is very much appreciated. Thanks in advance.

### BOOYA & FALL FESTIVAL UPDATE

The Booya and Fall Festival was a big success with the parish netting a total of \$6,427.80. Thanks to the many volunteers that made this event fun and very successful.

### ST. MARY'S ANGEL GIVING TREE IS BACK!

The Angel Giving Tree is located by the Community Room until **December 5th**. Only one week left to stop by the tree and pick out an ANGEL to help support Catholic Charities. Your **Angel** will ask you to provide a “**NEW**” unwrapped gift to support the thousands of people who are experiencing homelessness and living in poverty or in crisis. With your support Catholic Charities will serve many families, young people, adults, elders & those with disabilities in the Greater St. Paul area. **Gifts MUST be returned by Sunday, December 5th!** If you have any questions, please contact Terri at email [merterri527@gmail.com](mailto:merterri527@gmail.com).

### SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Next Sunday, December 5th there will be an anointing of the sick available immediately following the 10:30am Mass. Please remain in the pews while father prepares for this sacrament; where all parishioners can be anointed with the Holy Oil. The Over 75 dinner will follow in the Blessed Monti Community Room.



## Upcoming Events

Angel Giving Tree: Nov. 7th – Dec. 5th  
Santa Breakfast-Dec. 12th, 8am–1pm

### Saturday Confession Time Change

Beginning Saturday, November 27th Confession will be available from 3:30 til 4:20pm. Confessions will be heard in the confessionals on the Mary's altar side of the church.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

RE Class, December 4th, 9-10:15 am  
(Grades K thru 8th)

**Reconciliation Meeting #2 during class.**



Carol Chudzik 27th, Bill Wearn 27th,  
Gerald Bryse 29th, Anna P.  
Plantenberg 12/1, Amanda McGivern  
12/1, William Roessler 12/1, Joseph  
Rongstad 12/3 and Luciano Ramirez-  
Castor 12/3.



Erin Kinney Ellison, Aron Hanseter,  
Brian McDonough, Irene Stackpole  
and Parris Veeder.



### FLOWER ENVELOPES

Christmas flower envelopes are available at the entrances to the church. Your donations will help defray the cost of the flowers and decorations for Christmas. This is a beautiful way to memorialize loved ones who have gone before us.

### COLLECTION

The collection for Sunday, November 21, 2021 will be posted in next week's bulletin.

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