

Connections...

October 14, 2001 – 28th Sunday of the Year

† *One of the lepers, realizing that he had been healed, returned, glorifying God in a loud voice; and he fell at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. Jesus said in reply, "Ten were cleansed, were they not? Where are the other nine?"*
Luke 17:5-10

Pop's accounting system

The owner of a successful small-town hardware store kept his accounts payable in a big envelope, his cash in a small lock box, and his accounts due stuck on a spindle. His son, who had just completed his M.B.A. and had passed his C.P.A. exam, said, "Pop, I don't understand how you can run your business like this. You can't even tell how much profit you're making. Why don't you let me set up a computerized bookkeeping system for you?"

"I don't need it, son," the elder explained. "You see, my father - your grandfather - was a tenant farmer and when he died all I had to my name was a pair of overalls and a pair of shoes. So I moved from the farm and came to town. I worked hard and saved my money and finally started this hardware business. Today, your brother is a lawyer, your sister is a doctor and you're a C.P.A. Your mother and I live in a nice home. I own this hardware store. And everything is paid for.

"So according to my accounting system," Pop told his son with a smile, "when you add all that together, and subtract the overalls and the shoes, everything else is profit."

[Winston K. Pendleton.]

CONNECTION: For no other reason than love so deep we cannot begin to fathom it, God has breathed his life into us. The only fitting response we can make is to stand humbly before God in quiet, humble thanks. Such a sense of gratitude can transform cynicism and despair into optimism and hope and make whatever good we do experiences of grace. But too often we let our worries and fears over what we might lose and our disappointments and hurts over what we don't have or never will have overwhelm that spirit of gratitude. Like the Samaritan leper who gives thanks for the miracle that has taken place in his life, we, too, can be transformed by such joyful gratitude to God once we realize that, in Christ, we have been "made whole," "made clean." "restored" to completeness in his hope and love. ■

PLEASE NOTE:

Beginning October 14, 2001 the parish office will be open on Sundays from 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14

- 7:30am Mass & Open House
- 9:30am Mass & Open House
- 11:30am Mass & Open House
- 1:00pm Hallelujah Chorus (Church)
- 2:00pm 7th & 8th Grade Schola (Church)
- 3:00pm Hosanna (Church)
- 6:15pm Mass & Open House

MONDAY, OCTOBER 15

- 9:30am Word/Eucharist
- 7:00pm Living Rosary (Church)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16

- 8:30am Mass
- 1:30pm Script/Comm (Presbyterian Homes)
- 2:00pm Script/Comm (New Brighton CC)
- 7:15pm Spiritu Group (Choir Room)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17

- 8:30am Word/Eucharist
- 6:30pm Cantor Rehearsal (Church)
- 7:15pm Choir practice (Choir Room)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18

- 8:30am Mass
- 10:15am Mass (Innsbruck)
- 2:15pm Script/Comm (Trevilla)
- 7:00pm Script/Comm (St. Anthony CC)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19

- 8:30am Mass

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20

- 4:30pm Mass

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21

- 7:30am Mass (Cantor & Organ)
- 9:30am Mass (Choir & Organ)
- 11:30am Mass (Spiritu Contemporary Group)
- 6:15pm Mass (No music)

Looking Ahead

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• St. Vincent de Paul Coat Drive •

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• Bring your clean, gently used coats •

• (men's, women's & children's) to St. •

• John's next weekend (October 20/21). •

• We are collecting scarves, and NEW hats •

• too! Donated items will be given away •

• at the New Brighton Service Center on •

• October 27. Your donation is greatly •

• appreciated! •

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Next Sundays Readings:
 Exodus 17:8-13 • Psalm 121:1-8 • 2 Tim
 3:14-4:2 • Luke 18:1-8

Before I forget...

Signs on Church property...

- * "No God - No Peace. Know God - Know Peace"
- * "Try our Sundays. They are better than Baskin-Robbins."
- * "Searching for a new look? Have your faith lifted here."
- * "Come in and pray today. Beat the Christmas rush."
- * "Sign broken. Message inside this Sunday."
- * "How will you spend eternity - Smoking or Non-Smoking?"
- * "If you're headed in the wrong direction, God allows u-turns."

Today we give thanks to God for a new chapter in our parish history. Coming to church will be a new experience... we will enter and exit through the gathering space (St. Paul Plaza). We will have hospitality after each Mass in St. Joseph Hall. Our new pastoral center is just waiting to be used by people. It is a wonderful building that will be around for generations... it is the work of our hands, in more ways than one.

Sister Joyce Rupp, a spiritual writer, asks people this question: "When did you last notice your hands?" She then encourages people to spend a few minutes looking at their hands. Think of all the things your hands do for you in a given day: right now they are holding this bulletin, they help you get up from a chair, they wash your face and brush your teeth, comb your hair, write things, type words, carry things, turn pages, reach out, and open/close doors. Sister Joyce reminds us that hands are wonderful gifts. It's easy to take our hands for granted until they become arthritic or succumb to some other physical ailment.

A lot of good hands made this building possible. Young hands and old hands worked hard and made a gift of their hard-earned money to make a dream a reality. They wrote checks to the parish with their hands. Some who supported this project have already passed on. I looked at their hands for the last time as they rested in death.

Architects used their hands to design a building to be used by the People of God. Some people maneuvered heavy equipment with their hands to dig the foundation. Blocks and bricks were put into place by human hands. Flooring, tiles, and carpet were placed down by hands. Walls and ceilings were painted. Lights were installed. Bathrooms were put together. Windows were handled with care as they were installed. Many hands built this building. How can anyone criticize the work of so many hands? I suppose there is a negative person to two who is just looking for something to complain about. I hope I'm wrong! But if you hear negative comments, hold the complainer responsible - ask them what they did with their hands. Words can be cheap. Let's remember that this was and continues to be the work of a great community of people!

It's easy to take our hands for granted, as well as our eyes and sight, our ears and hearing, our breathing, our feet, you name it. There's a great line in Betty Smith's book, *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*: "Look at everything as though you were seeing it either for the first time or the last time. Then your time on earth will be filled with joy." How true.

I am happy that we accomplished this new pastoral center together. But I am more anxious to see it used by people: Little children in the preschool and nursery; children and adults in the art room; music being made in the rehearsal room and chapel; meals shared in St. Joseph Hall; hospitality after Mass; seniors gathered together; youth having fun; people learning; broken hearts and spirits being refreshed; minds on fire for the truth; good smells in the kitchen. Talk about the work of our hands!

This is only the beginning of another era in the life of this parish. As we celebrate our opening today, I give thanks to God for all of you. You are my parishioners and I am your pastor. We work together for the honor and glory of God and for the good of our dear neighbor. Let's lift our hands in prayer and in gratitude to God who makes all things possible.

Fr. Bill

DON'T SPEND ANOTHER SATURDAY NIGHT WITH YOUR TV SET!!!

Come to Dinner!

St. John's OPEN DOORS divorced/widowed/singles group, is hosting a social & dinner in the New St. John Pastoral Center this Saturday, October 20. We are having Italian cuisine along with beer & wine. Social hour at 6:30 p.m. Dinner at 7:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Teri at 651-633-8333 by Tuesday, October 16. If you have questions about OPEN DOORS call Anne Marie at 651-633-8333.

From the Associate...

Rosary for Peace

A 94 year old man was recently asked this question, "What is the key to your health and longevity?" He answered, "I eat Total for breakfast." Personally, I think there is probably a lot more to it than that, but Total does seem to be a good cereal. For a couple years now I have been switching off between Wheaties and Total. Wheaties claims to be "The Breakfast of Champions," and sure enough, there is Tiger Woods on the front of my 1 LB 8 OZ box of Wheaties, made of 100% whole grain. Total claims that it "may" reduce risk of heart failure or complications. It also claims to have 100% of Vitamins C and E, and the daily value of 12 vitamins and minerals. I recently purchased the 1LB 2OZ box, which is 6 OZ's less weight than the Wheaties box, but they're both kind of big, and I like that. But then another priest told me that wheat based cereals like these, have glucose, and if I really wanted to control my diet, I'd have more oat cereals, like Cheerios. I don't know all that food jargon stuff; it seems like every week another study comes out, which flip-flops the latest stats. Nevertheless I decided to act on his words, and so now I switch off each day between Total and Wheaties, filling up $\frac{3}{4}$ of the bowl with one of them, and then topping it off with Cheerios. We'll see if I'm still eating them at 94. Either way, good news is I got rid of Frosted Flakes and Fruit Loops along time ago.

If we want to be strong and healthy we try to eat good foods and exercise regularly. If we want to be emotionally and spiritually strong, we must pray daily, and receive the Sacraments (Eucharist weekly). Now healthy bodies make for good laborers, and healthy souls make for loving families. And just as the laborer is the backbone of our economy, so is the healthy family the foundation of a civil, just, and peaceful society. Without healthy families, any nation crumbles under the violence and abuse, which proceeds from its roots. We are in a time of turmoil and testing. We can either return to, and strengthen our Christian spiritual heritage, or enter a global terroristic plot. I invite you to consider praying one rosary a day, with me, for world peace, and an end to violence, beginning in the family, the domestic church. Thanks!

Fr. Michael

Music Notes...

NOTE: TIME CHANGE FOR HOSANNA!

We will now be rehearsing from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Sundays.

THE ALL NEW "HALLELUJAH" CHORUS

There are still many openings for our group! This group is open to girls and boys in grades 3-6. We rehearse Sundays from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. For more information call Mary Anne Bennek at 651-639-1136.

Youth Newz...

There will be **NO ODYSSEY or JHL** for 7th and 8th graders this Wednesday, October 17. Odyssey and JHL will resume next week, October 24. Remember to bring your Bibles.

JHL is underway and we are looking for snack donations for the year long program. If you would like to contribute please contact Sara @ 763-754-7666 with questions.

All adults interested in learning skills for working with teens are invited to attend "Adults in Youth Ministry Training" being offered at Immaculate Conception in Columbia Heights, on October 16 and 23, from 6:30 - 9:30 pm. Materials for these training sessions are provided and there is no cost to participate. Please call Sara to pre-register. Consult the *Newspaper* for further details or call Sara at 763-754-7666.

Senior High Service Club will **NOT** meet this Wednesday, October 17. It will meet again Wednesday, October 24 from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

The youth of Immaculate Conception Parish invite all 7-8th graders to attend a Halloween dance at Immaculate Conception on October 26 from 7-10pm. There will be a DJ and snacks will be sold! Come in costume or come as you are! The cost is \$3 at the door. Call Sara for more details at 763-754-7666.

Circle of Women...

Circle of Women will **NOT** meet this Thursday, October 18. Please join us on October 26 for our fall brunch in our new meeting space in the St. John Pastoral Center. All women of all ages are invited to join us! Childcare is provided by Kari Gill (please pre-register your child by calling 763-785-6947). For more information on Circle of Women please call Carrie Pomeroy at 763-780-5160.

NEEDED: CHILDCARE WORKERS Thursday mornings from 9:00 - 11:45 for Circle of Women. This is a paid position. All interested applicants should call: **Kari Gill at 763-785-6947.**

ADULT CPR SERIES

Sponsored by the St. John's Prime Timers

Part I - October 29

Learn how to recognize the symptoms of a stroke and heart attack, the difference between a heart attack and angina, the use of the Heimlich maneuver to clear obstructed airways and other related topics.

Part II - November 5

Kay Bauer, instructor, will demonstrate CPR, then participants will practice this lifesaving maneuver.

Classes are from 6:30-9:30 in the lower level of the pastoral center. Fee is \$2 which covers the cost of the book, which must be purchased at the first session. Class size is limited, pre-registration required. Call Ralph/Jane Arnott (651-633-0265) or Frank/Marlene Nickel 763-784-1239).

Pastoral Ministry...

CANCER SPIRITUALITY GROUP

This Wednesday, October 17 the Cancer Spirituality Group meets at 2:00 p.m. in the Pastoral Center. Please know you are welcome - we have people involved at all different places with cancer experience. Our common hope is to share our faith, our encouragement, our friendship. This group is very welcoming. Call Anne Marie with questions (651-633-8333).

GROWING THROUGH LOSS

Thursday, October 18 at 6:45 p.m. at Roseville Lutheran Church (1215 W. Roselawn)

Topic: "Grieving at the holidays and other special times."
Call Anne Marie at 651-633-8333 for more information.

WANTED: BIRTHRIGHT VOLUNTEERS FOR COON RAPIDS OFFICE

"A volunteer opportunity with no pay but great benefits!" Committed, compassionate people are needed to volunteer two hours, 1-2 times per month to help others experiencing a crisis pregnancy or who just need someone to talk to.

Birthright offers free pregnancy testing, and educates and supports people in making alternative choices to abortion. Volunteer training will be held Saturday, Nov. 10, 8:45 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 11 from 11:45 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Please call Judy Quayle at (651) 633-0459 for more information.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those in our community who are ill:

John Battmer, Donald Beaubien, Marcelline Beseler, Leonard Bleses, Marcella Boomer, Helen Cmiel, Ann Czech, Louis Czech, Tom Dandurand, Leona Doroff, Lenore Dougherty, Joe Fellner, Veronica Flaherty, Bernadette Hearn, Bernice Hopkins, Henry Horbatuck, Michael Kavanagh, Kevin Keenan, Herb Loscheider, Nancy Mehrer, Rupert Meyer, Irene Mitchell, Corliss Moore, Howard Morris, Donna Murphy, Georgianne Myers, Norman Petri, Paul Pojar, Ben Ruebelke, Dennis Ryan, Richard St. Germain, Sr., Dan Sebesta, Mary Shea, Bob Sorem, Frances Vonacek, Mildred Werner, Patty Wirth, Linda Zappa,

The families and souls of those who recently have died:

Jean Velandier

PRAYER LINE

Call one of these numbers with your prayer requests.
All requests are confidential.

651-633-1618

763-784-5254

651-636-5251

School News...

There are NO CLASSES October 18/19 because of teacher workshops.

Our school athletic department is looking for a couple small refrigerators. If you can help with this, please call 651-633-1522. We will arrange for someone to pick-up.

A round of applause to our chairpersons this year, James Hanton and Carrie Hefte. You did a fantastic job and the community of St. John's School thank you for your time and talent in coordinating this successful marathon.

Larry Justin	Ify Ochiagha	Rowena Ochiagha
Stacey Meyer	Karen Edmond	Margaret Towle
Laurie Bialek	Lori Stampfle	Chuck Stampfle
Laura Lind	Debra Zeien	Terri Alton
Kathy Casper	Julie Chalmers	Lisa Dillon
Jill Dobrick	Ann Erion	Christopher Erion
Darlene Forgy	Lori Surma-Heine	Laurie Houwman
Leonard Huray	Debbie Johnson	Mary Jungmann
Mary Justin	Briana Justin	Cheryl Kerzman
Colleen Law	Mike Mata	Joni Metz
Lara Oberle	Lynn Poirer	Patti Schneider
Mike Bilski	Grant Bilski	Ron Spiess
Sheryl Szymanski	Johanna Chenoweth	
Jimmi Lane-Bina		

An enormous "Thank you" to every student, parent and friend of St. John the Baptist School that helped to make this year's Marathon for Non-Public Education a great success. The numbers are still being calculated but we hope to be very close to our goal.

The parents and students listed above were particularly generous with their time and energy in volunteering for this year's effort. In addition, Miss Diane Ptak, Mrs. Theresa Hirsh, Mrs. Ellen Stanslaski and Sister M. Gwendolin were instrumental in helping to coordinate the efforts of the faculty and students. Last, but not least, a thank you to Fr. Bill and Fr. Michael for supporting the students and encouraging the parish to show their support as well.

Faith Formation...

CELEBRATE THE WORD

Children who have registered will not have their own liturgy until the beginning of November when the new chapel is complete. Training for volunteers will be in late October. Thank you for your patience. Questions? Call Teresa Nueman at 651-633-1540.

Birthright

Caring help for pregnant women.

651-646-7033 – St. Paul

763-757-0715 – Coon Rapids

SEEKERS: Adult Theological Book Club

We are seeking to form an adult faith. We read a wide variety of books, and raise a variety of questions. You are always welcome to join us, we ask only that you read the book. The book for October is the novel **Pope Joan** by Donna Woolfolk Cross, Ballantine Books, New York. We will meet Thursday, October 25, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. in the St. John Pastoral Center, St. Vincent de Paul Room. Explore your faith, expand your vision. Questions? Call Mary Ann Zervas at 651-633-1540.

Council of Catholic Women...

OCTOBER IS ROSARY MONTH

St. John's Council of Catholic Women will host the annual Living Rosary in the church on Monday, October 15 at 7:00 p.m. In addition to the Living Rosary a special blessing will be given to all expectant mothers, which is most appropriate since October is both Rosary and Respect Life month. If you wish to participate as a bead in the Rosary, please call Lois, 651-633-6086 and gather in the narthex by 6:40 p.m. All are invited to join in asking Mary for help in coping with the overwhelming problems of our time. Hospitality following.

Seniors...

SENIOR CITIZENS

"FROM AGE-ING TO SAGE-ING"

A NEW VISION OF GROWING OLDER

An introductory inter-faith workshop on this topic will be offered Friday, October 19, 9:00 a.m. - noon at Faith United Methodist Church located at 2708 33rd Ave NE, St. Anthony. There is no charge. You are requested to reserve space by calling the Faith Church Office, 612-781-3167.

SILVERTONES - Next Meeting - Wed. Oct. 17. Lunch following at the New Brighton Family Service Center.

Liturgy News...

MEMORIALS

Today we wish to thank our benefactors for their very generous gift of a seven-foot grand Steinway piano for our Saint Cecelia Choir Room in the Pastoral Centre. The grand is a gift of Michael, Ann Marie and Jude Villafana, former students of Saint John's School! Many thanks.

FESTIVAL FLAGS

The Festival Flags and Pendants gracing the church were designed by Mr. Fred Petters in the early 1960's for Saint Mary's Cathedral, Saint Cloud, Minnesota, for the Installation and Consecration of Bishop Schoenecker. With special thanks to Father Steve Binsfeld, Rector of Saint Mary's Cathedral for allowing their reproduction.

Many thanks for the creation of the new interior flags and banners to parishioners, Lois Lietzke, Eileen Scott, Gerry Blanski, Gini Moran, Marcella Diebel, Roann Mezzenga,

Diane Weinmann, Phyllis Ordahl and Renee Jordan for their articulate and painstaking reproduction of Mr. Petters original design. Special thanks also to Lois Lietzke and Margaret Nelson for their design of the Festival Processional Banner used for the first time this weekend.

A PRAYER OF BLESSING BESTOWED ON THE CEREMONIAL DOORS

AND THOSE WHO ENTER THROUGH THEM -

Many thanks to Margaret Nelson who composed the following prayer for the Rite of Dedication of the Saint John Pastoral Centre and the new Ceremonial Doors into the nave of the Church. May we all seek to live out this prayer in our daily lives, for we are all doors to Christ, for one another.

May Our Doors Be Open!

Open the doors of our church, open wide the doors.

May they receive all who hunger for God,
all who thirst for the King of glory!

May they receive all, who need consolation,
all who hope in the Lord of hosts.

Open the doors of our church, open wide the doors!

May they receive all, who have thanks to offer,
who have praise to give to our God.

He is the King of glory!

May all who enter be free from pettiness,
complacency and pride.

May all who enter find here love, courage
and faith in the God they seek.

May nothing cause any to stumble, no one to fall.

Open the doors of our church, open wide the doors.

Let in the Lord of Hosts.

Let in the King of glory.

May Our Doors Be Open!

Margaret Nelson, Copyright Ó 2001

PRAYERS FOR PEACE CONTINUE

Come and pray the Rosary for peace on selected Thursdays during the month of October. Prayers will begin at 7:00 pm in the Church on Thursdays October 18, & 25th.



**St. Vincent De Paul
Clothing Drive
Saturday, October 20
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon**

Look for the big truck at the end of the west parking lot and bring your good used clothing right to the truck.