

Looking Ahead

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

7:30am Mass (Cantor & Organ)
9:30am Mass (Choral)
11:30am Mass (Contemporary)
6:15pm Mass (No Music)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 - LABOR DAY

9:00am Mass

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

8:30am Mass
1:30pm Mass (Presbyterian Homes - Roseville)
2:00pm Script/Comm (New Brighton CC)
7:15pm Contemporary Music Group (Church)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

8:30am Word/Eucharist

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

8:00am Monthly Prayer Vigil (Church)
8:30am Mass
10:15am Script/Comm (Innsbruck)
2:00pm Script/Comm (St. Anthony)
2:15pm Mass (Trevilla)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

8:30am Mass

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

4:30pm Mass (Cantor & Organ)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

7:30am Mass (Cantor & Organ)
9:30am Mass (Choir & Organ)
11:30am Mass (Contemporary)
6:15pm Mass (No Music)

Labor Day

September 3, 2001

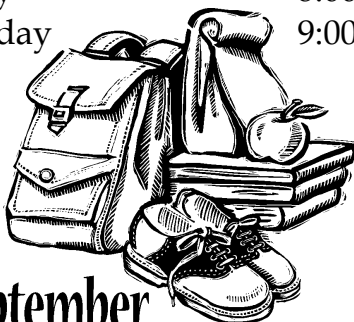
9:00 a.m. Mass

Have a fun and SAFE holiday weekend!

Parish Office Hours

The parish staff would like to remind you that we return to regular office hours beginning Tuesday, September 4.

Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



September

Connections...

September 2 – 22nd Sunday of the Year

+ "... every one who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

Luke 14:1,7-14

Shrek

The animated movie *Shrek* is one of the most original and wickedly funny films of the year.

In this fractured fairy tale, based on the book by William Steig, Shrek is an ogre who lives in a swamp surrounded by *Keep Out* and *Beward of Ogre!* Signs. He is green, ornery, overweight, nasty-looking and foul-smelling - and has terrible table manners, to boot. All Shrek wants is to be left alone in the murky swamp he calls home.

But Shrek is vile in order to preempt the horrors of others - Shrek purposely frightens people away before they can see how ghastly he looks.

When he becomes the reluctant hero, the Princess Fiona - whom Shrek rescues from the dragon's dark castle - realizes what a kind heart beats beneath Shrek's slimy green skin. Shrek discovers that he is not such a mean ogre after all but a lonely creature who, in fact, longs for friendship and wants to love and be loved.

The moral of Shrek's tale is that life is not a fairy tale, that there's both a bit of the ogre and the beautiful princess within each one of us. Shrek and Fiona - who isn't exactly what she appears to be either, but to say more would give away the story - must confront the un-fairy-tale like reality that goodness and beauty, understanding and love are much deeper than green skin and trumpet-shaped ears.

CONNECTION: Jesus challenges us to see one another not as black and white cartoon or fairy tale characters, not to cast one another as either ogres or heroes. In calling us to welcome everyone to our tables, Jesus asks us to embrace a vision of faith that sees deeper than mere appearances and the abstract labels we assign to one another but to welcome one another as real flesh and blood, sacred and holy as children of God who is Father of us all. The spirit of humility as taught by Jesus is not the diminishing of one's self but the realization that we share with every human being the sacred dignity of being made in the image and likeness of God. To be humble as Christ teaches humility is to see one another as God sees us and to rejoice in being able to care and support one another in both our joys and struggles. ■

Next Sundays Readings:

Wisdom 9:13-18 • Psalm 90:3-6,12-17 • Phlm 9-10,12-17 • Luke 14:25-33

From the Pastor...

(Especially for Singles - Divorced - Widowed)

- Don't judge a life good or bad before it ends.
-- Sophocles
- I can never be what I ought to be
Until you are what you ought to be
And you can never be what you
ought to be
Until I am what I ought to be.
That is the interrelated structure of reality.
-- Martin Luther King, Jr.

There is an old legend that at the entrance to heaven, two questions will be asked of everyone seeking admittance. The first is, "Did you come alone?" If your answer is yes, the second question is, "How could you?"

We all need human relationships, those personal contacts in our daily lives. It is difficult these days, especially in large metropolitan areas, to have relationships with each person. A TV crew recently filmed an actress, posing as an elderly woman, falling down in a variety of street locations. It only took two minutes for someone in a village to come to her aid, compared with 45 minutes in an urban shopping mall.

We need a life filled with friends, community, service, and creative and spiritual growth. The Church must provide parishioners with a moral code, a vision of what gives life value, and an opportunity for community where one can make valuable contributions. Churches that provide opportunities for personal relationships are the churches that are going to survive in this age of technology and busyness.

We need companions on the journey. A companion is one who breaks bread with another. That is what we do every Sunday at the Eucharist. At the very beginning of his ministry Jesus found companions. Whenever he faced a difficult situation, he gathered his companions around himself. Jesus, the Christ, the Son of God, the Savior, needed companions. He couldn't go it alone.

And we can't go it alone. We all need support as we face the challenges of life. Our need for companions and friends is part of our human psyche... it reminds us that we are made in the image and likeness of God... on God, three persons.

There are many small relational communities in the larger parish of St. John's. One new group is "OPEN DOORS". It's for single, divorced, widowed, men and women. There are times we just want to get together for social events. Not to worry! It's not a matchmaking group... but if that happens, it happens. Often, events are for couples or families. It's good to be with other folks who are living a single life for one reason or another.

On October 20, 2001, the Open Doors group is having a dinner in our new St. John Pastoral Center. Give it a try. God often speaks to us and reveals his love through strangers. Maybe you don't know anyone in the group (it just began this spring). Some of my best friends were once strangers... ALL our friends were once strangers.

The Church loves all her children - no matter what's happening in their lives or where they are on this wonderful journey we call life. I urge you to give it a try - meet others, do some fun things together, help the group to grow, and feel more connected at St. John's.

For more information, call Anne Marie (staff liaison) at 651-633-8333.

You're Great!
Fr. Bill

Birthright

Caring help for pregnant women.

651-646-7033 – St. Paul
763-757-0715 – Coon Rapids

Monthly Prayer Vigil...

"Our Lord present in the Blessed Sacrament is the living heart of each of our churches. It is our very sweet duty to honor and adore in the Blessed Host which our eyes see, the Incarnate Word which they cannot see, and Who, without leaving Heaven, is made present before us." (Pope Paul VI)

Our monthly Eucharistic Adoration will take place in the Chapel from 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Thursday, September 6. The southwest door of the church will be open during vigil.

From the Associate...

Orthodoxy

A priest of the Archdiocese said in one of his first homilies as a new pastor, "If there is any label I would wish other Catholics to place upon me, it would not be that of 'liberal' or 'conservative,' but 'faithful.'" He immediately received a standing ovation.

Are you conservative or liberal? Do you think the Church is fundamentally one way or the other? As I look across the priesthood, age groups seem to differ in expression: generally, younger priests come across as conservative, middle age priests as liberal, and the oldest as conservative again. Of course these are only generalizations, and there are plenty of priests in each category to defy the odds. Nevertheless, trends seem to be evident.

Orthodox is a word which means, "right doctrine": from (Greek) "*orthos*" meaning "right" or "true," and "*doxa*" meaning "doctrine" or "opinion." It is a wonderful word; something we all aspire towards. Orthodoxy in terms of Catholic theology is actually both conservative and liberal. It is conservative of the beautiful treasures of faith we have received through divine revelation, and it is liberal, or open to greater insights into that same revelation. The difficult duty of discerning which developments in theology are true to the deposit of faith rests upon us all, but ultimately and decisively upon the Magisterium (the Bishops). One might employ an analogy to help visualize the point. A small oak tree, only several weeks old, looks very different from an oak tree fully grown and flourishing; still there is a definite resemblance, such that one would say of both that they are substantially Oak trees. So also a human baby looks very different from itself in adult stage; still a resemblance is obvious, and all would say that they are both substantially a human person. In the process of maturing, bad limbs, pruned or cut from plants, enable good ones to blossom and flourish; bad habits shed by humans opens the door to virtues, so that an individual can grow bodily strong and spiritually wise. The development of doctrine within the Catholic Church is like the growth of a tree or human being. Some doctrines are actually corruptions and must be pruned or cut off, while others truly resemble the gift originally given: some doctrines are orthodox, and others heretical. Let's take up an example to look at: next week, the question of the First Person of the Trinity as "Father."

Fr. Michael

Music Notes...

SINGERS AND INSTRUMENTALISTS wanted/needed for our Acoustic Folk Group, *Earthen Vessels*. Busy young parents, we may suit your schedule! We sing twice monthly for the 4:30 p.m. Saturday Mass (two rehearsals a month). Contact Cheri Sykes at 651-633-8333 for an appointment.

Youth Newz...

Parents of 7-8th graders are reminded to register your sons and daughters for the *Odyssey* program to be held at St. John's School. Sessions will be held on Wednesdays at 4:45 and 6:30 p.m. The programs "kicks off" on September 12 with a Parents only meeting at St. John's at 4:45 or 6:30 p.m. Student sessions begin September 19. Please contact Rick Craig at 763-754-7666 or the St. John's Faith Formation office with any questions or concerns you may have.

The Fallfest is September 15 & 16 and *TEEN TURF* is back with Challenge games, Humongous inflatable obstacle course, a street dance and more! Mark your calendars now! Call Margi Kirk, 763-754-7666 or David Budzynski, 651-636-6279 to volunteer to help.

9-12th graders are invited to join Service Club which begins Wednesday, September 19. Service Club meets on five Wednesdays from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Please submit \$25 and registration to Rick by September 5. See the *Newzpaper* for details or call Rick Craig at 763-754-7666.

Faith Formation...

CLASS LISTS

Updated Faith Formation class lists are posted on the bulletin boards at the west entrance. Please verify the class day and time for your child and call Sandy at 651-633-1540 if you have any changes. Faith Formation Registration forms are available on the table by the nursery or at the parish office.

SEEKERS: ADULT THEOLOGICAL BOOK CLUB

Our next meeting will be Thursday, September 27. The book to read is **The Birth of Christianity** by John Dominic Crossan, HarperSanFrancisco. You are always welcome to join us to discuss a book that captures your interest, or as a regular member. Explore your faith, expand your vision. SEEKERS meets from 7:00–8:30 p.m. in the parish center. Questions? Call Mary Ann Zervas at 651-633-1540.



OPEN DOORS (divorced/widowed/singles group)

Please join us for a wine and cheese social on **Tuesday, September 11 and 7:30 p.m. in the parish center.** All are welcome! We will finalize our plans for the Fallfest and our October 20 dinner party.

Watch the bulletin for upcoming events and mark October 20 on your calendar for a large group dinner and get-together in the new parish center!



Pastoral Ministry...

GROWING THROUGH LOSS

Series begins September 27 at Roseville Lutheran Church from 6:45 - 9:00 p.m. Brochures in the back of church near the bulletin boards.

1st evening: Realities of the Grief Process: An Overview Presented by Gail Naller, North Region Mental Health Center

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Wednesday, September 12, our cancer spirituality support group begins again after a summer break - we meet from 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. in the parish center. Please know you are welcome. Call Anne Marie with questions at 651-633-8333.

MAKARIA MINISTRY

ONE HAIL MARY A DAY CRUSDAE

Violence manifests itself in many parts of our lives. It can be in the home and in the street. It can be in the form of road rage or domestic abuse in the family. We are all aware of the violence in our world. Please join us and other church communities in saying one Hail Mary a day for those in our midst who are suffering from any form of violence. Thank you to those who accepted a card last weekend after the Masses and are saying the Hail Mary!

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those in our community who are ill:

John Battmer, Donald Beaubien, Marcelline Beseler, Leonard Bles, Marcella Boomer, Helen Cmiel, Ann Czech, Louis Czech, Leona Doroff, Lenore Dougherty, Joe Fellner, Bernadette Hearn, Bernice Hopkins, Henry Horbatuck, Michael Kavanagh, Kevin Keenan, Fran LaVoie, Herb Loscheider, Nancy Mehrer, Rupert Meyer, Irene Mitchell, Corliss Moore, Howard Morris, Donna Murphy, Georgianne Myers, Paul Pojar, Ben Ruebelke, Dennis Ryan, Richard St. Germain, Sr., Dan Sebesta, Mary Shea, Bob Sorem, Frances Vonacek, Mildred Werner, Patti Wirth, Linda Zappa, Wilma Brannon, Alvernia Roehler, Kristi Vacca.

The families and souls of those who recently have died:

LaVonne Sanhow, Helen Schroeder (Mother of Mary Trauba), Chris Mattis, James Daniels (Father of Lynn Sandquist), Eunice Hessberg.

PRAYER LINE

Call one of these numbers with your prayer requests.

All requests are confidential.

651-633-1618

763-784-5254

651-636-5251

Circle of Women...

Mark your calendars! Circle of Women will be back in full swing this fall with our first session beginning September 20. After a short reflection on scripture and a few announcements our guest speaker will be Mary Pinney-Erickson who will speak on "Responding to the Poetry of Sacred Experience," followed by small group sharing. Again, childcare is provided by Kari Gill (please pre-register your child). For more information on Circle of Women please call Carrie Pomeroy at 763-780-5160.

PLAYGROUND POSITION AVAILABLE

If you are a Mom, Dad or Grandparent and love to work with children, have consistent policies and are punctual, St. John's is looking for a playground supervisor for Grades 1-8. Hours are every school day beginning September 4 for one hour each day. This position pays \$10.00 per day. Interested parties should contact the school office at 651-633-1522.

School News...

September 4 is the first day of school for the students at St. John's with classes beginning at 9:30 a.m. and school dismissal at 4:00 p.m.

This year St. John the Baptist School will welcome these teachers who are enthusiastic about working for a Catholic school with an outstanding reputation. They are:

Mrs. Christine Arndt, Mr. Michael Beck, Mr. Jerome Bennek, Mrs. Jennifer Carroll, Mrs. Mary Doenges, Mrs. Jeanne Dompierre, Mrs. Rebecca Farr, Mrs. Mary Fischer, Miss Sandy Golden, Miss Peg Hankes, Mrs. Teri Hirsch, Mrs. Maria Koskie, Mrs. Susan Linnihan, Miss Carol Mike, Mrs. Carol Mills, Mrs. Mary Nawrocki, Miss Sarah Peterson, Miss Diane Ptak, Mrs. Mary Schweizer, Mrs. Marie Spoden, Mr. Steve Steffl, Mrs. Carolyn Thompson, Miss Summer Tombarge, Mrs. Mary Wraneschetz.

St. John's will soon enjoy the St. John Center, which is quickly growing out of the mound of earth right beside the school. But until the project is completed the students, staff and parents of St. John's will have to contend with interruptions in walkways, facilities and meeting space availability. Dedication is October 13 and will be here soon.

Last year proved to be an especially progressive period for the school. In addition to the solid report from the MNSAA and numerous awards received by classes and teachers, the school enjoyed terrific support from the parents, families, parish and community. This year we continue that tradition of excellence.

This is the beginning of our 50-year celebration. Let our alumni know about the January 27 celebration.

Seniors...

SILVERTONES CASINO BOUND!

Get on the bus to Grand Casino—Hinkley, Thursday, September 20, 2001. Registration forms in the "seniors" rack on the bulletin board in the west entrance.

SILVERTONES MEETING

The next meeting of the St. John's SilverTones will be Wednesday, September 19 at 9:00 a.m. Please join us for lunch following the meeting at the New Brighton Family Service Center. Make your reservation by Monday, September 17 by calling 651-638-2145 and mention you are with the St. John's Seniors Group.

Liturgy News...

MEMORIAL

When the parish church of 1902 was closed, the decision was made to put into storage the 14 Stations of the Cross which were made of horse hair and plaster. During this time some of them were badly damaged and storage in the basement took its toll on them. When we had to vacate the old parish center and move out of our storage area near the tunnel a decision needed to be made as to what should happen to this piece of our history.

The Arts and Environment Committee made a decision to retain the eleven remaining stations due to their historical nature and also their monetary value. To create this turn-of-the-century art form today, each station would cost \$25,000 to replicate. Three generous individual donors came forward in the last several months and indicated a desire to help restore a particular station. These you will find on display at the baptistry this weekend along with several which have not been restored. As they are completed, they will be placed in the alcoves around the church as art pieces displaying a particular part of Saint John's history. Many thanks to our generous parishioners who have begun this process of restoration.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

We are in need of more Eucharistic Ministers especially for the 11:30 and 6:15 Masses. This is a specialized ministry requiring good standing in the church and a commitment for at least two years. Please pray about it and if interested, see Jay Hunstiger after Mass on the weekend or call at 651-633-8333. This ministry is open to all those who have made their Confirmation.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Last Week	ACTUAL	GOAL	CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
	\$21,840	\$22,022	\$ 10,401
SINCE: July 1, 2001	\$210,078	\$210,795	To Date \$ 3,190,147
Children's	\$44.00		

Thank you for your support!

LAY MINISTERS

No more changes for the next ministry schedule are being accepted as schedules are now being put together. Schedules will be ready for pick up by the middle of September.

Building Project Update...

At the construction meeting held on August 23, it was announced that the St. John Pastoral Center will be finished and ready for occupancy by the October 13 dedication. However, the chapel will probably not be finished until the end of the month. There is a lot of intricate work in the chapel that will require more time to fully complete. This work includes a very detailed wood ceiling, a specialized lighting system, installation of pews, organ, stained glass windows and a granite floor. We will bless this chapel as part of the dedication ceremony and begin using it sometime in November.

Formal Dedication of the St. John Pastoral Center is October 13. Mark your calendar and watch for weekly bulletin updates!

Why study the Bible anyway?

- 1) Scriptures are at the heart of the Catholic faith.
- 2) An effort to know the Bible is an effort to understand our faith and our heritage as Catholics.
- 3) As the Word of God, the Bible has the potential to deepen our relationship with God.
- 4) Sharing scripture stories personally and in small groups give us a fuller experience of what it means to be part of a community of faith.
- 5) As Catholics it promotes dialogue and evangelization with people of other faiths as well as other Christian denominations.
- 6) To see how God has been involved with us since the very beginning.

Try something new this fall...

If you've never read the Bible before or if you read it every day and are open to reflection and discussion (and a bit of challenge too) join us!

Little Rock Bible Study Series begins Monday, September 24 and meets Monday evenings from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Fall series: The Book of Exodus

(The foundational book of the Bible and our faith story, a good place for beginners)

Winter series: The Gospel of Matthew

Spring series: The Book of Wisdom

Each series is 10 weeks.

For registration and more information contact Darlene Tucker at 651-486-5570.