

September 14, 2003 - Exaltation of the Holy Cross

St. John^{the} Baptist CATHOLIC CHURCH

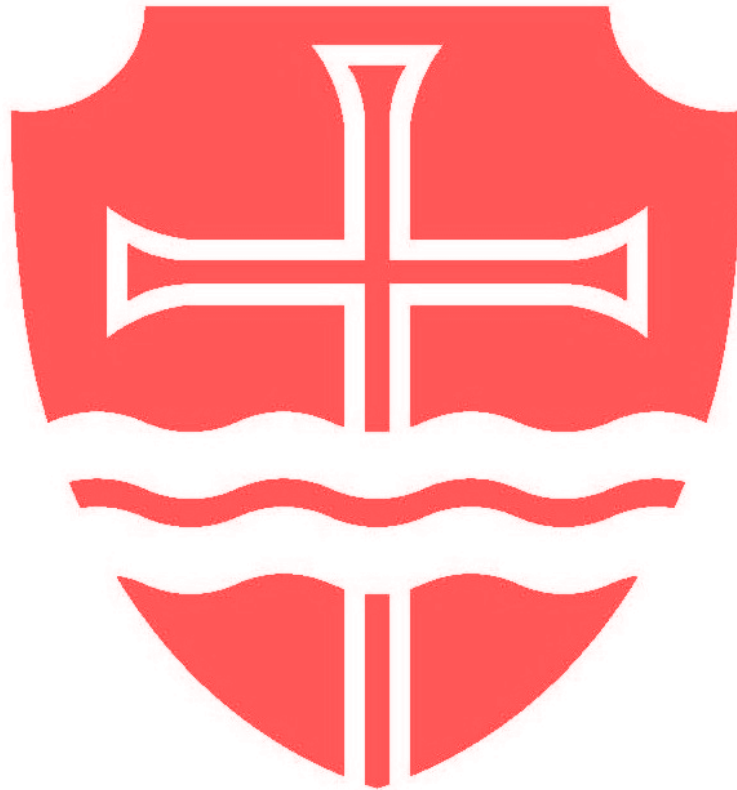
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“A Community called and formed by the Gospel”

This weekend, as we celebrate the Exaltation of the Cross, we are proud to unveil our new parish coat-of-arms.

A coat-of-arms is an heraldic device which denotes information about a person or an institution. Every pope, bishop, and diocese bears a coat-of arms. Local parish churches can choose to use this device as a logo which identifies the parish in the community.

Our logo uses our new exterior cross dividing the waters of the Mississippi River (wavy lines) which separates the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.



The Baptizer is often shown holding the Cross of Christ on a field of red, representing John's martyrdom.

Our coat-of-arms reads as follows:

The Church of St. John the Baptist (cross) of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis (wavy lines).

Our thanks to parishioner, Joe Cecere, who creatively designed our new logo.

**ST. JOHN'S
NEW
COAT-OF-ARMS**

As a Catholic Community, we joyfully proclaim and grow in the Good News of Jesus Christ through worship, fellowship, service, and lifelong faith formation.

PARISH OFFICE 651-633-8333

Fr. William Murtaugh, Pastor

Fr. Michael Keating, Associate

SCHOOL OFFICE 651-633-1522

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE 651-633-1540

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Welcome to St. John's! We're glad that you are here!
Registration takes place on the first Sunday of each month
at 10:30 a.m. in Room 211 of the Pastoral Center.

Mini-Course On The Mass

by Fr. Michael Keating
Sundays in October
10:45 - 11:15 a.m., Youth Room



Topics:

- October 5 Why is Mass So Boring?
October 12 Liturgy: At the Heart of the World
October 19 The Body and The Blood
October 26 Praying the Mass
Call the Parish Office, 651-633-8333.

PARISH LEADERSHIP!

Please mark your calendars for our Leadership Breakfast
on Saturday, October 25, from 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.



FALLFEST FAMILY GOLF SCRAMBLE

Saturday, Sept. 20, 9:00 a.m.
to 1:00 p.m. at "Bridges" in
Moundsvew. Call Mary Burg to
register, 651-636-7474.

The NEW deadline for all bulletin items is 12:00 noon on Thurs-
day, 10 days before the Sunday publication date.

All submissions will be edited for length & content and are subject
to final approval. Please remember that space is limited!

Thank you for your cooperation.

Perpetual Adoration

"The church and the world have a great need for Eucharistic
worship. Jesus awaits us in this Sacrament of Love. Let us not
refuse the time to go to meet Him in Adoration..."

Pope John Paul II

There is an urgent need for an adorers on Saturdays from
12:00 noon - 1PM. No one is signed up for this hour.
Please prayerfully consider filling this open hour.

Other hours are also available. Please call Dorothy at (651)
636-1660 or Jerry at (651) 636-2054 to sign up for an hour
with the Lord. Substitutes are available for times when
you can not make your hour.

Fallfest Note The adoration chapel will be open for public
viewing only (No Blessed Sacrament or monstrance!)

Potluck Dinner Adorers, mark your calendars for Oct. 4
to gather for 4:30 Mass followed by a potluck dinner.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 (Our Lady of Sorrows)

- 8:30am Mass (Chapel)
9:00am Totino-Grace Bridge Marathon (210 & 211)
7:00pm Boy Scout Adult Meeting (Room 204)
7:00pm CCW Monthly Meeting (St. Joe's)
7:00pm YMCS meeting (211)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

- 8:30am Mass (Chapel)
6:00pm Chat with the Principal (St. Joe's)
6:30pm 1st Reconciliation Leader Training (205)
7:00pm Society of St. Vincent de Paul (204)
7:00pm Respect Life (210)
7:00pm Cub Scout Adult Committee (211)
7:15pm Wild Honey & The Locusts (St. Cecilia)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

- 8:30am Word/Eucharistic Service (Chapel)
9:45am School Mass (Church)
7:15pm Adult Choir (LL101)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

- 8:30am Mass (Chapel)
7:00pm 2nd Year RCIA (210)
7:00pm Band Recruitment (Franciscan Hall)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

- 8:00am Rosary (Chapel)
8:30am Mass (Chapel)
5:30pm FALLFEST GALA (St. Joe's)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

- 9:00am FALLFEST GOLF TOURNAMENT
3:30pm Reconciliation (or by appointment)
4:30pm Mass - Fr. Keating (Wild Honey & Locusts)
5:30pm FALLFEST & STREET DANCE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21: FALLFEST!

BOOYA SERVING STARTS AT 11:00 AM

- 7:30am Mass - Fr. Keating (Cantor & Organ)
9:30am Mass**- Fr. Bill (Wild Honey & Locusts)
11:30am Mass**- Fr. Bill (Polka Mass)
6:15pm Mass - Fr. Don Piche (Instrumental Only)

**Nursery Available

Before I Forget...



Do you know the story about the five monkeys?

Put five monkeys inside a cage. Hang a banana on a string in the cage and put a set of stairs under the banana. Before long, one of the monkeys will go to the stairs and start to climb up toward the banana. As soon as the monkey's feet touch the stairs, the other four monkeys are sprayed with cold water.

A little later, another monkey will make an attempt to get the banana, which will also result in all of the other monkeys being sprayed with cold spray. Pretty soon, when another monkey tries to climb the stairs, the other monkeys try to stop it.

Now, take away the cold water. Take one monkey out of the cage and put in a different one. The new monkey will see the banana and start to climb the stairs. To the monkey's surprise and horror, all of the other monkeys will attack him. After another attempt and another attack, the monkey knows that if he tries to climb the stair, he will be assaulted.

Next take away another of the original five monkeys and replace it with a new one. The newcomer will go to the stairs and be attacked. The previous newcomer will take part in the punishment with enthusiasm. Likewise, replace the third original monkey with a new one, the fourth and then the fifth.

Every time the newest monkey starts up the stairs, the new monkey will be attacked. Most of the monkeys that are beating the new monkey have no idea why they are not permitted to climb the stairs or why they are participating in beating the newest monkey.

After replacing all the original monkeys, none of the remaining monkeys have ever been sprayed with cold water. Nevertheless, no monkey ever again approaches the stairs to try to reach the banana.

Why not? Because as far as they know that's the way it's always been done around here.

The story of the monkeys makes me stop and think: How am I living my life, my vocation to the priesthood, my Catholic faith, as a disciple of Jesus? To tell you the truth, I want to live my discipleship with enthusiasm. I believe my relationship with Jesus Christ is the most important part of my life... I've staked my entire life on Jesus, the Gospels. Am I on fire for the Lord, or... am I afraid of getting sprayed with cold water? There are days when I stop and think that I've become too tame, subdued, harmless, dull, lacking spirit and courage. I want the "banana!" And, I'll

even share it with you!

Those of us who are adult members of the Church need to model a faith life that is vibrant and exciting. We have made the decision, not once, but over and over, to follow Jesus no matter what the cost to ourselves. Isn't it exciting to have Someone to love, and to live our lives for that Person?

Our values come from the Gospels. It is probably more difficult to follow Jesus in our country and in these times because of the dominant secular culture often contradicts the values of Jesus. We are constantly bombarded with materialism, hedonism, individualism, consumerism, relativism. All of these "isms" can seduce us and influence us, and our young.

For 2000 years, Jesus has invited people to follow Him and imitate His way of life. What happens to us when we allow ourselves to be formed and transformed by Jesus? He tells us: "I come that they might have life and have it more abundantly." An easy life? Hardly. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the German pastor executed by the Nazis, reminds us that the Lord's way is not a way of comfortable living or "cheap grace." We "cheapen" the way of Jesus if we think it is about pleasant experiences and feeling good. To be a disciple is costly because it requires a disciple of Jesus to put aside the craving for domination, possession, and control. And the grace of discipleship leads to true freedom and eternal life. What could be better?

I like what Anwar el-Sadat, the martyred leader of Egypt, said: "Without a vocation, a person's existence would be meaningless. We have been created to bear the responsibility God has entrusted us with. Though different, each person should fulfill his/her specific vocation and shoulder his/her responsibility."

Our calling, vocation, is to follow Jesus. Life would be a rat race, a mean existence, without Jesus. Imagine: the Son of God, Jesus invites us to follow Him. What a mysterious gift and privilege. It's sad that many people throw away the gift of following Jesus by "aping" others who choose a lesser way of life.

Jesus promises more than a banana. Jesus invites us to a life and lifestyle that has attracted some of the greatest human beings in the last 2000 years of history.

I say to you what I tell myself: don't be shy and timid about being a disciple of the Teacher!

Fr. Bill

For Your Information:

Golden Retriever, Isidore Love, also known as "IZZY." Born May 3, 1997, in Duluth. Died September 5, 2003, in Golden Valley at the age of 6 years, 4 months and 2 days.

Survived by his master & friend, The Pastor, and his half-brother and best bud, Theodore (Teddy).

Body donated to University of Minnesota Small Animal Hospital for research.

Pets are a reminder of God's unconditional love for us.



From The Associate... THE HOLY CROSS

When a person with an inquiring mind looks out at the world, he or she sees a confusing welter of people, nations, events, images, and experiences, and naturally asks the question, "How am I to view all of this? How am I to interpret my own experience, how to put into some kind of order this seeming chaos of sight and sound and history? Shall I look at things in a serious, or in a light-hearted way? Is life a comedy or a tragedy? How can I settle on the really important things? Where, if anywhere, is happiness to be found? What is the meaning of it all?"

There are a thousand possible keys with which to interpret the world, ourselves, everything around us. A thousand possible, but only one true one, one given to us by God himself. That one true interpretive key is the Holy Cross of Jesus Christ.

Take a look at the long history of the world, the rising and falling of kingdoms and nations, the growth of civilizations, the whole tale of power and glory and war. What does it all mean? Gaze upon the Holy Cross.

Look at current events, at world politics, at the hopes and tensions of our time, at elections, and power struggles and alliances and international diplomacy. How to interpret it? By the Cross of Christ.

Turn your attention to the whole world of finance, of business, of ships and planes and trucks plying the seas and air and highways, of phones and computers buzzing in an incessant clamor of communication, of the flow of billions of dollars over the earth. How evaluate it all? Look at the Cross of Jesus Christ.

Have your eye caught by the world of arts and entertainment, by the TV, the movie and music industries, the stage, the arts, the rise to fame of the latest sensations, the fashionable and the sophisticated in the world of stardom and artistic accomplishment. How to understand it? See it in the light of the Cross.

And then look within, to secret hopes and fears, to nameless sufferings endured, to a life of mixed beauty and ugliness, of goodness and evil, of blessing and of anguish. How make sense of it all, how get to the heart of it and understand it? See it in the light of the Holy Cross of Jesus Christ. The cross of Christ is the great sign given to us that puts everything else in its right place. It is the anchor of truth in a shifting and changing world. It is the pattern of all true life, the standard by which everything on earth is to be judged and understood.

"I knew nothing among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified." So said St. Paul to the Corinthians. He preached among them "nothing" except this one thing, which is everything. The Cross of Christ is at the center of our world, at the great act by which God has saved and recreated the human race. That extraordinary act is mystically brought to us in the celebration of the Sacred Mysteries: the Holy Cross at the heart of the Holy Mass. This from today's Mass prayer:

The suffering and death of your Son brought life to the whole world, moving our hearts to praise your glory. The power of the Cross reveals your judgment on this world and the kingship of Christ crucified.

Lift high the Cross!

Connections: September 14, 2003 Exaltation of the Holy Cross

† *"Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in Him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave His only Son, so that all who believe in Him might not perish but might have eternal life."* (John 3: 13-17)

† *Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at the disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."* (Mark 8: 27-38)

THE LESSON OF THE OYSTER

An oyster is soft, tender and vulnerable. Needing the sanctuary of its shell in order to "breathe" water. Sometimes while an oyster is breathing, a grain of sand will enter its shell and become part of the oyster's life from then on.

Such grains of sand, though microscopic, cause the oyster a great deal of pain. But the oyster does not change its soft nature because of a particle of sand. It does not become hard and leathery in order not to feel. It continues to open its shell to the ocean, to breathe in order to live.

But it does respond to the suffering in its midst. Over time, the oyster wraps the grain of sand in thin translucent layers until it has created something of great value in the place where it is most vulnerable to its pain.

A pearl might be thought of as an oyster's response to it suffering.

[From My Grandfather's Blessings by Rachel Naomi Remen, M.D.]

CONNECTION: *We all have grains of sand that hurt, irritate and diminish our lives; all of us have experienced or will experience loss and hopelessness. Such "grains of sand" are a part of everyone's life. Peter's urging Jesus not to talk about the passion that is before them and keep it "upbeat" is an attempt to deny the reality of suffering. For Jesus, the challenge of the pain and disappointment we confront is not to sink into self-pity or deny our anger or passively accept the role of victim, but to accept the reality of our suffering and pain and transform it into "pearls" of generous compassion, humble growth, and selfless consolation.*

Stewardship of Treasure

Actual	Goal	Capital Campaign II
September 7, 2003: \$35,210	\$32,991	\$11,505
Since July 1, 2003 (YTD): \$258,274	\$265,157	\$573,372
Children's (YTD): \$69.00	Labor Day's Contributions: \$131.00	

God bless you for your generous support!

School News



St. John the Baptist School students returned and are working in their classrooms in a joy-filled spirit. The Student Government ran an all-school assembly on Sept. 2 to help start out

the year. The school is in need of updating the reading books used in grades 3-6. We would like to purchase new reading books but these are not part of the school budget. How would you like to contribute to the success of our students in reading - - with reading material that is up-to-date? If this is important to you, please consider making a donation to **Reading - St. John's School c/o of Sue Clausen, Principal**. The students will certainly appreciate this, as will the teachers!

SPEAKING OF THE PRINCIPAL Get to know her better by joining her for coffee and a chat on Tuesday September 16, St. Joseph's Hall, from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

CONGRATULATIONS! to Savanna Heidenreich, a second grader at St. John's. She is a safety art winner and is featured in Xcel Energy's 2004 Calendar. Check out the month of August!

Seniors

SILVERTONES Next meeting on Wednesday, September 17. Lunch at 12:00 noon, New Brighton Service Center. Call for reservations, 651-638-2145. Meeting at St. John's at 1:00 p.m.

AUTUMN IN THE ST. CROIX VALLEY Monday, October 6, take a nostalgic *train trip* from the historic 1916 Osceola Train Depot to Marine on the St. Croix. Car attendants share history and information. Great food will be enjoyed during a late lunch at the *Gasthaus Bavarian Hunter Restaurant*. A stop at *Pine Tree Apple Orchard* will allow for an opportunity to purchase a wide variety of mouth-watering treats and gift items.

Depart from St. John's at 9:45 am

Return approximately 4:45 pm

Cost : \$45.00 (\$50.00 for non members), includes transportation, train, lunch, and entertainment at lunch. Flyers available at the Welcome Desk or Parish Office. *Deadline* for registration is September 22. **NO REFUNDS** for cancellations after September 30.

Pastoral Ministry

Nursing Home Schedule

Week of September 14:

Tuesday, September 16

Word/Comm.	11:45 AM	Presbyterian Homes
Word/Comm.	2:15 PM	New Brighton Care

Thursday, September 18

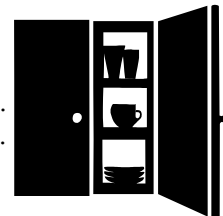
Mass	10:15 AM	Innsbruck
Word/Comm.	7:00 PM	St. Anthony
Word/Comm.	7:15 PM	Trevilla

REMINDER TO ALL "OPEN DOORS" FOLKS Come help at the Fallfest booth. Meet new friends, enjoy the St. John's community.

ALL PASTORAL MINISTRIES Watch for your invitation in the mail to a retreat on October 1.

Thank You...

to all who contributed their time & vast culinary talents to our funeral luncheons. Your kindness is deeply appreciated. *Please remember to pick up your dishes!*



PRAYER LINE

Call one of these numbers with your prayer requests.

All requests are confidential.

651-633-1618

763-784-5254

651-636-5251

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Those in our community who have entered eternal life:

*William VanderWeyst, father of Howard VanderWyst;
Fr. Austin Ward, Fr. Greg Tolaas*

Those in our community who are ill:

*Beau Anderson, John Battmer, Donald Beaubien,
Marcelline Beseler, Marcella Boomer, Karen Bona,
Shawn Brewer, Esther Cadwallader, Wayne Carlson,
Ann and Louis Czech, Lenore Dougherty, Joe Fellner,
Linda Franklin, Bernice Hopkins, Anna Horbatuck,
Fr. Michael Joncas, Kevin Keenan, Br. Joseph Katzmarek,
Esther Knapp, Mary Krenik, Linda Leier, Herb Loscheider,
Julie Martinez, Nancy Mehrer, Rupert Meyer, Irene Mitchell,
Lance and Ann Moe, Corliss Moore, Ray Nelson,
Mary Peterson, Rose Ryan, Cynthia Schwall, Frances Svontek,
Ted Spiess, Ed Stich, Richard St. Germain, Sr.; Bob Sorem,
Sylvia Thorne, Judith Tschida, Frances Vonacek,
Donna Waldoch, Helen Winger, Mildred Werner, Linda Zappa*

Faith Formation News

FAITH FORMATION PARENTS

Classes will begin October 1 for Elementary Ed. and Junior High. Sunday School starts on Sunday, Sept. 28.

YOUTH MINISTRY PRAYER CHAIN

Want to make a difference in the life of a young person? Join our prayer team! There are several ways to get involved: through Adoration, Rosary, and an e-mail intention list. For more information, contact Dave or Pam Clark, 651-638-9447.

JUNIOR HIGH FAITH FORMATION

7th - 8th Grade Faith Formation classes begin October 1 at 5:00 - 6:00 pm and 6:30 - 7:30 pm in the Youth Room. A calendar for the year will be sent home with the students. Parents are welcome to attend orientation. For more information or questions, contact Brad and Libby DuPont: johnthebaptistyouth@yahoo.com or 651-633-8333, x1218.

SEEKERS is an Adult Theological Book Club. We are seeking to expand our vision and develop an adult faith. Our next meeting is Thursday, October 2, 7:00 - 8:30 pm in St. John's Pastoral Center, St. Vincent de Paul Room (#210). At that meeting we will view a PBS Legacy video on **Iraq: The Cradle of Civilization**, with discussion following. For our following meeting on October 30, the book to read is: **Scarred by Struggle, Transformed by Hope** by Joan Chittister (William B. Eerdmans Publishing, Grand Rapids, Michigan). We invite you to join us.

CIRCLE OF WOMEN We welcome women of all ages to our first regular meeting this year on Thursday morning, September 25, from 9:15 am to 11:30 am. Our speaker will be Angie Bailey, columnist with "The Edge" newspaper. She will speak about "Living in Faith and Staying in the Flow." Come join the Circle and bring a friend. Call Ruth, Circle of Women Coordinator, with questions, 651-717-0010.

Childcare will be available. Suggested donation is \$3.00. Please call Rita, 651-639-0291, to register your child.

LITTLE ROCK SCRIPTURE STUDY Bring your Bible and your thirst for "Living Water," and come join others as we journey through the Gospel of John and the Johanne Epistles on Monday evenings beginning September 29, at 7:00 pm in the St. Katherine Drexel Room. Cost: \$20.00 for two sessions. Enjoy a cup of cold apple cider and an apple dessert, and share your thoughts about how you see God transforming your life with His Word. Registration forms available in the Parish office.

Birthright

Caring help for pregnant women.

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

Open Doors is...



a social group for divorced, widowed, and single men and women -- meets the second Tuesday of each month from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. in the St. Vincent De Paul Room for socializing and snacks. Come to the meetings or just the events. The door is open -- you're always welcome!! For additional information, call Anne Marie at 651-633-8333, ext. 1237.

Upcoming events:

Every Wednesday - Walking and Jogging Groups meet from 6:00-7:00 PM (weather permitting) at boat launch area at Long Lake Regional Park. Call MaryKay at 612-782-3872 with questions.

Sept. 22 - Swing Dance foundation building (progressive) classes Mon. nights (6 wks) in Roseville (\$39). To register, call Roseville Comm. Ed. at 651-604-3770. Or, try the basic Swing and Lindy Hop lessons at 6:30 PM every 1st Tues. at Heart Alive in Brooklyn Center and 1st Thurs. at Tapestry in Mpls. See www.tcswing.com or call Jan at 651-780-2142.

Sept. 25 - Restaurant of the Month -- Group will meet at 6:30 PM at Dixie's on Grand, 695 Grand Avenue, or carpool from St. John's parking lot at 6:00 PM. RSVP to Pat at 651-633-4512 by September 21.

Sept. 26 - Happy Hour - Join St. Joan of Arc Singles group for happy hour from 6:00 - 8:30 PM at Grandma's Saloon (the upper room - Brunswick's), 1810 Wash. Ave. S., Minneapolis, next to Holiday Inn. No RSVP necessary.

Caribbean Cruise -- Interested in an Open Doors Caribbean Cruise in March 2004? If so, contact Mary Kay at 612-782-3872 or e-mail at mkv.hilsgen@juno.com by October 15.

If you, or someone you know, would like to be added to our mailing list, or if you would like to receive an invitation to visit our new web site, please call Jan at 651-780-2142.

Social Justice

CLOTHING DRIVE There will be a St. Vincent de Paul Clothing drive this fall. Please consider this charitable work as we move into the next season. Clean and usable items only, *please*.

FOOD SHELF Thank you for your generous donations to our food shelf. We have experienced an increase in clients the past several months and our local community food shelf at Ralph Reeder has depleted their shelves because of their volume of clients. Our immediate needs are: canned fruit, canned veggies, boxed potatoes, flour, white rice, sugar, Spaghetti O's, oil, cookies, crackers, pudding, grape jelly, and non-food items. What ever you can contribute is greatly appreciated. If you have the time and the desire, we are looking for a couple of volunteers to help staff our St. John's food shelf. Our hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 10:00 am to 12:00 noon. Please call Renee at 651-636-8934 if interested.

RESPECT LIFE A Respect Life meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 16, in Room 210 at 7:00 pm. Topics for discussion will include Respect Life Sunday and the Baby Bush Project. All are welcome!