

September 21, 2003 - 25th Sunday of the Year

St
John^{the}Baptist
CATHOLIC CHURCH



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New Brighton, MN 55112-6842
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"A Community called and formed by the Gospel"



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

Take your family to Fallfest today!

PARISH OFFICE	651-633-8333
Fr. William Murtaugh, Pastor Fr. Michael Keating, Associate	
SCHOOL	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.

Youth Music News

THE HALLELUJAH CHORUS will begin rehearsals Wednesday, September 24. This group is open to all 3rd - 6th graders of the parish who like to sing and are willing to learn a lot and have tons of fun in the process! Rehearsals are held in St. Cecilia Music room each Wednesday from 4:00 - 5:00 and 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. during the school year. For more information, please call Mary Anne Bennek, (651) 633-8333, ext. 1220.

KINDERMUSIK classes are beginning again! Children newborn through age 7 are given a wonderful beginning to the world of music through singing, movement, instrument exploration, and much more. Brochures are available in the Parish Office. All classes will begin the week of October 20. For more information, please call Mary Anne Bennek, (651) 633-8333, ext. 1220.

HOSANNA, the teen choir, will begin rehearsing on Wednesday, November 19, from 7:00 - 8:15 p.m. in Church. There will be only be six (6) rehearsals to prepare for Advent and Christmas Liturgies.

There is also the possibility of putting together a group who would like to meet and make music more often. This group would be responsible for singing and playing for the **TEEN/YOUTH Masses** once each month, on Sunday evenings. This group would rehearse one (1) hour prior to a given Liturgy. It is something we are going to try this year! If you, or someone you know, may be interested in either of these groups, please call Mary Anne Bennek, (651) 633-8333, ext. 1220, or e-mail at mabennek@comcast.net. Thank you.

The NEW deadline for all bulletin items is 12:00 noon on Thursday, 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

Thank you to the many faithful adorers. Our parish has received many blessings as a result of Eucharistic adoration.

Adoration Chapel Open House This weekend the Adoration Chapel will be open for viewing only. The chapel is located off of St. Paul Plaza next to the Chapel of the Angels. If you haven't seen it, please stop in! Adorers will be available to answer any questions you may have.

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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

- 8:00am Morning Rosary (Chapel)
- 8:30am Mass (Chapel)
- 7:00pm RCIA (Room 210)
- 7:15pm Earthen Vessels Rehearsal (St. Cecilia)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

- 8:00am Morning Rosary (Chapel)
- 8:30am Mass (Chapel)
- 7:15pm *Wild Honey & The Locusts* (St. Cecilia)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

- 8:00am Morning Rosary (Chapel)
- 8:30am Word/Eucharistic Service (Chapel)
- 9:45am School Mass (Church)
- 4:00pm Hallelujah Chorus (LL101)
- 5:00pm Confirmation Kickoff Retreat (Church)
- 6:30pm Elem. FF Meet Your Teacher (St. Joe's)
- 7:15pm Adult Choir (LL101)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

- 8:00am Morning Rosary (Chapel)
- 8:30am Mass (Chapel)
- 9:15am Circle of Women (Rm 206 & 207)
- 7:00pm Primetimers (St. Joe's)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

- 8:00am Rosary (Chapel)
- 8:30am Mass (Chapel)
- 1:00pm Quilters (LL 108)
- 7:30pm Engaged Couples Retreat (St. Joe's)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

- 8:30am Engaged Couples Retreat (St. Joe's)
- 10:00am 1st Reconciliation Meeting (LL106)
- 3:30pm Reconciliation (or by appointment)
- 4:30pm Mass - Fr. Bill (Earthen Vessels)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

- 7:30am Mass - Fr. Bill (Cantor & Organ)
- 9:30am Mass**- Fr. Bill (Choral)
- 9:30am Sunday School
- 10:30am Celebrate Parents Meeting (Chapel)
- 11:30am Mass**- Fr. Keating (Contemporary)
- 11:30am Sunday School
- 6:15pm Mass - Fr. Keating (Instrumental Only)
- 6:30pm Nat'l CCW Provence Dinner (St. Joe's)

****Nursery Available**

Before I Forget...

•For if you give, you will get. Your gift will return to you in full and overflowing measure, pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, and running over. Whatever measure you use to give – large or small – will be used to measure what is given back to you.

-Luke 6:38

•We are not human beings having a spiritual experience; we are spiritual beings having a human experience

--Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, s.j.

A few years ago Matt Weinstein, in his book, Managing to Have Fun, tells an interesting story that deserves to be told in every home throughout the parish.

Matt was running through the streets of Berkeley, California, with his friend Dale Larsen. Dale is a clinical psychologist, and although they had been friends for a long time, they had never gone running together before. After stretching, they began to run and had only gone a few blocks when Matt noticed Dale reaching into the pocket of his shorts, took out a handful of coins, and threw them over his shoulder. The first couple of times this happened, Matt pretended not to notice. But after a while it began to drive him crazy, so he finally asked Dale what's the story with the money? Why was he throwing coins into the street? Dale laughed and told Matt about an amazing psychology experiment nicknamed "The Good Samaritan Study."

In the study, researchers positioned themselves across from a pay phone and studied the people who made phone calls. One of the first things they discovered was that almost every one who makes a call looks in the coin return after hanging up to see if any coins happen to be there. The urge is irresistible: You just have to look in the coin return to see if the machine has mistakenly returned your money. This behavior gave the researchers an idea. The next day they randomly put coins in the coin return slot, so that some of the people who used the phone actually did discover money. The researchers then hired a young woman to walk by the phone at the exact moment that the subjects were hanging up. When the young woman walked by with her arms full of books, she pretended to stumble and drop them on the ground. Astonishingly, the researchers observed that the people who found the money in the coin return were four times as likely to stop and help the woman pick up her books then were the people who found no money in the coin return. The psychological

study concluded that when we feel good we tend to do good, which also means the helping impulse is transferable. In other words, if you do something good for another person, he or she is much more likely to do something nice for someone else, causing one small gesture to result in a giant ripple effect.

When We Feel Good, We Tend To Do Good!

When I go home on Sunday night, the end of my week, I'm usually exhausted, but I feel great. Something happens to me when I gather for Eucharist with you. I can't explain the mystery that takes place as we gather and worship our God in the name of Jesus. Something happens to me during the liturgy, and I pray that something is happening within you, too. The "Father" of Jesus continues to love us and speak to us in our Sunday assembly. For me, Sunday liturgy is not work but life. I believe that God gives me new life day after day in the Eucharist, but I also believe that God gives me life through each person I encounter day after day. All of us believe in Jesus. As you trust Jesus as your Lord, your faith in Jesus touches me and makes me positive, and makes me want to do good!

This weekend we celebrate our annual Fall Festival. Young and older gather together; what unites all of us is the Lord, Jesus. He continues to be a "real presence" in our lives. Jesus "touches" our minds, hearts, and souls in the liturgy. We leave Mass as people who have received more than a few coins at a pay phone. We've received the very life of the Risen Christ in Eucharist. We ought to feel deep joy and share that joy over a bowl of booya, a glass of beer, eating a pork chop on a stick, or dancing to the Rockin' Hollywoods. We should be joyful people who belong to Christ. This weekend is just about feeling good so that we can do good. **Have a great time!**

Fr. Bill

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Fall Clothing Drive
Saturday, October 4
9:00 - 12:00 Noon



Cleaning your closets? Please bring your clean, gently used articles of clothing to the West Parking Lot on Saturday, October 4. Needed: Gloves, Mittens, Winter Jackets, and NEW Hats.

Music Notes



TODAY'S POLKA MASS Our 11:30 Combo, *Wild Honey and the Locusts*, is pleased to present today's Polka Mass, a St. John's tradition, as we include Johnny Kujda, a professional accordionist of our parish. Many of the hymns have been written especially for this parish by Music Director Cheri Sykes and former Director of Faith Formation, Mary Ann Zervas.

CALLING ALL VOCALISTS *Earthen Vessels*, our acoustic folk group, needs more vocalists. *Earthen Vessels* leads the Saturday 4:30 p.m. liturgy twice monthly, with rehearsals the previous Monday. This is a lighter commitment than our parish choir, and *perfect for parents with young families*. We could even assist with childcare. Contact Cheri Sykes at 651-633-8333, ext. 1231.

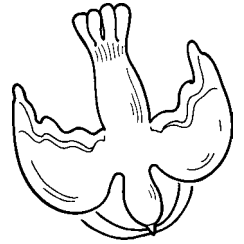
The **SJB Adult Choir** has begun rehearsing, and again sings for the 9:30 liturgies starting next week. If you can carry a tune, you are invited to join us as we grow in musicianship and camaraderie while creating musical prayer. We will work with your busy schedule. Seasonal singers welcome! Rehearsals are Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. in the Choir Room. Contact Cheri Sykes, 651-633-8333, ext. 1231.

Liturgy News

NEW TREE PLAQUES Look for the new plaques to be installed at each tree by the end of the week. Fr. Bill, Fr. Michael B., and Sr. Gwendolin garden plaques will be installed later this fall. Thanks to all of our generous donors and to Chuck Stampfle for his plaque expertise!



Confirmation



Kick Off Retreat

Wednesday

September 24

5:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Youth Room

Questions? Call Libby & Brad

651-633-1540, ext. 1218

NOTE: Small group leaders are still needed for Confirmation and Junior High Faith Formation. Opportunity is knocking!

Connections: September 21, 2003 25th Sunday of the Year

† "If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be last and the servant of all..."

"Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me..." (Mark 9: 30-37)

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

California politics have been a circus of late, but recent a gaffe by a group of California legislators reached a new high or low in political cynicism.

This summer, the State of California wrestled with one of the worst budget crises in its history. Programs in education and child care, services to the poor and needy, trial courts, and some highway construction projects were at risk. Democrats and Republicans could not agree on a plan to raise necessary revenues.

On this particular July afternoon, a group of State assemblymen and women met in a conference room for what they thought would be a private discussion of the political consequences of the budget crisis - but one of the participants unknowingly hit the "on" button to a microphone in the room. Their "private" caucus was broadcast throughout the state capital. Legislators and lobbyists heard members of the group say how it would be in their reelection interests to let the budget crisis continue for the rest of the year, that letting opponents make severe cuts now would be better for their members facing competitive races next year and for members planning to run for Senate seats. The unintentional broadcast was interrupted when an aide informed the group that a microphone was on. [The San Francisco Chronicle, 22 July 2003]

CONNECTION Regardless of the "spin" the caucus tried to put on their intemperate remarks, it's hard to escape the fact that these ten legislators were putting political concerns ahead of the concerns of the poor, children, and those in crisis. An embarrassing as this episode was, such an approach is more the norm than the exception: We are often more than willing to sacrifice the common good for our own self-interest; we measure the severity of a problem by its impact on us; we seek how to manipulate the misfortune of others to our advantage. In today's Gospel, Jesus challenges us to seek the greatness of being last, the authority of being the servant to others, the power of advocating for justice and the common good.

Stewardship of Treasure

Actual	Goal	Capital Campaign II
September 14, 2003: \$28,089	\$28,890	\$7,648
Since July 1, 2003 (YTD): \$286,363	\$294,047	\$581,020
Children's (YTD): \$92.00		

God bless you for your generous support!

Pastoral Ministry

Nursing Home Schedule

Week of September 21:

Tuesday, September 23

Word/Comm. 11:45 AM Presbyterian Homes

Wednesday, September 24

Room Visits New Brighton Care

Thursday, September 25

Room Visits 7:00 PM Innsbruck
Mass 2:00 PM St. Anthony
Word/Comm. 7:15 PM Trevilla

THANK YOU TO: Pat Smithberger who has served on the *Growing Through Loss* steering committee for many years – We thank you for your commitment to this ministry! May the Spirit lead you to new ministries...

THANK YOU TO THE SEVERAL INDIVIDUALS who called to help a parishioner needing to get groceries. This has provided great relief for our parishioner and we are grateful to you.

THANK YOU to the folks who responded to the need for Eucharistic Ministers at our area hospitals – new voices and new names to represent St. John's!

NEEDED A Bethel college student needs a ride to church. Can you help? Call Anne Marie, (651) 633-8333, ext. 1237.

FAMILIES MOVING FORWARD We still need folks willing to share some time with our Families Moving Forward guests. They will be here the week of October 12-19. Call Anne Marie if you can help, (651) 633-8333, ext. 1237.

ST. JOHN'S MOVIE STUDIO! If you know how to produce videos, or want to learn, free classes are available at CTV-15. Maybe you're already certified? We need your expertise. Call Maurice, (651) 633-8333, ext. 1224. Roll 'em!



PLEASE PRAY FOR...


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 Kutzmarek, 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

School News

MARATHON The Marathon for Non-Public Education on October 4 is drawing close. The children have been busy raising pledges for a number of projects that are not otherwise in the budget. If you would like to donate, please call Sue Clausen at the school at 651-633-1522, ext. 1117.

Seniors

 **QUILTERS** The quilting group will hold their usual meeting on September 26 at 1:00 pm in the Lower Level Room 108. We are happy to have new members – it is enjoyable and rewarding.

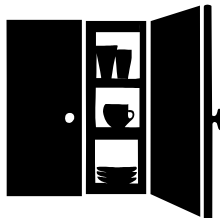
AUTUMN IN THE ST. CROIX VALLEY Monday, October 6, take a nostalgic *train trip* from the historic 1916 Osceola Train Depot to Marine on the St. Croix. Car attendants share history and information. Great food will be enjoyed during a late lunch at the *Gasthaus Bavarian Hunter Restaurant*. A stop at *Pine 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.

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

Faith Formation News

ELEMENTARY FAITH FORMATION PARENTS (GRADES 1-6): Wednesday, September 24 is "Meet Your Teacher Night" in St. Joseph's Hall. All parents should attend with their students. Students will be dismissed to their classrooms to meet their teacher and fellow classmates while parents stay in St. Joseph's Hall to cover the important aspects of this year's program. We look forward to seeing you and your children at this important meeting. The meeting starts at 5:00 p.m. for the early session and 6:30 p.m. for students registered at the later session. Questions? Call Teresa Neuman at 651-633-1540, ext. 1234.

FIRST RECONCILIATION PARENTS The first group session for First Reconciliation will be held on Saturday, September 27, at 10:00 a.m. We will meet in the **Youth Room** on the Lower level of the Parish Center (*Please note: Change of location!*). We will have a prayer session that covers the first chapter, then break out into community groups. Babysitting is available for younger siblings by pre-registering with Teresa Neuman at 651-633-1540, ext. 1234.

LADIES NIGHT OUT Mark your calendars for Friday, October 24! The "Sister" singing group will be back by popular demand!!! Advance tickets available for \$5.00, which includes the concert and refreshments following. Bring your mother, daughter, sister, friends - this is a MUST see. Call for ticket information - - Mary Walus, 651-633-8333, ext. 1227.

SUNDAY SCHOOL Teachers and helpers are still needed for Sunday School during the 9:30 Mass beginning September 28. Training is provided and teaching can be shared between volunteers to accommodate schedules. Helpers, ages 12 and up, are also need to work in the classrooms. Please call Mary Walus at 651-633-1540, ext. 1227.

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. Eerdman Pub., Grand Rapids, Michigan).

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.

LADIES MIDWEST RETREAT September 23/24/25 at Franciscan Retreat House, Prior Lake. Car pool at St. John's. Call Mary Jane, 651-633-6497, or Loretta, 651-633-2857.

LITTLE ROCK SCRIPTURE STUDY It isn't too late for the Little Rock Scripture Study of the Gospel of John and the Johannine Epistles. We will be meeting on Monday evenings from 7:00 - 8:30 pm in the St. Katherine Drexel Room. The registration fee is \$20.00 for a study guide and commentary to be used for two sessions, September 29 - December 1, 2003 and January 12 - March 15, 2004. Registration forms available at the Welcome Desk in St. Paul Plaza. Come and share your journey!

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.

Birthright

Caring help for pregnant women.

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

PARISH LEADERSHIP!

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