

September 28, 2003 - 26th Sunday of the Year

St Johnth Baptist
CATHOLIC CHURCH



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"A Community called and formed by the Gospel"



You and your loved ones are invited to pray the Rosary every Thursday evening during the Month of October at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel of Angels.

See page 2 for information on the Archdiocesan Rosary Celebration.

Mary, Queen of Peace, pray for us!

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 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. Join us!

10:45 - 11:15 a.m., Youth Room (for all ages!)



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 for childcare, 651-633-8333.



On Tuesday, October 7, the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, a celebration is planned for the *Year of the Rosary* that was originally proclaimed by Our Holy Father in October 2002.

There will be a candlelight procession in Saint Paul from the State Capitol to the Cathedral beginning at approximately 6:30 p.m. Call the Archdiocesan Office of Marriage & Family Life for more information, 651-291-4488. Free transportation is available; call Maurice, 651-633-8333, ext. 1224.

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, but we need adorers for two more hours; please consider signing up:

- 1:00 - 2:00 AM Tuesday
- 3:00 - 4:00 AM Saturday

POTLUCK DINNER Saturday, October 4, after the Mass at 4:30 p.m. All adorers and their families are invited to attend. Please sign up on the list posted in the Cenacle. We will review the year and look to the future. Call Dorothy at 651-636-1660 or Jerry at 651-636-2054 with any questions.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

8:00am Morning Rosary (Chapel)

8:30am Mass (Chapel)

7:00pm Little Rock Scripture Study (206, 207, 208)

7:00pm RCIA (Room 210)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

8:00am Morning Rosary (Chapel)

8:30am Mass (Chapel)

12:45pm Moms in Touch (Nursery & Room L109)

7:00pm Just Faith Class (Room L109)

7:15pm *Wild Honey & The Locusts* (St. Cecilia)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1

8:00am Morning Rosary (Chapel)

8:30am Word/Eucharistic Service (Chapel)

9:45am All School Mass (Church)

4:00 & 5:00pm Hallelujah Chorus (LL101)

5:00, 6:00 & 6:30 pm Elem. FF (School, 207 & 209)

6:00pm Pastoral Ministry Retreat (206, 208, Chapel)

7:00pm Arts & Environment Committee (Rm 210)

7:15pm SJB Adult Choir (LL101)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2

8:00am Morning Rosary (Chapel)

8:30am Mass (Chapel)

9:15am Circle of Women (206, 207, 208 & Nursery)

7:00pm Parish Pastoral Council (Room 204)

7:00pm *Rosary: Month of the Rosary* (Chapel)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3

8:00am Rosary (Chapel)

8:30am Mass (Chapel)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4

9:00am St. Vincent Clothing Collection (pkg lot)

3:30pm Reconciliation (or by appointment)

4:30pm Mass - Fr. Bill (Cantor & Organ)

6:00pm Adoration Committee & Potluck (St. Joe's)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

7:30am Mass - Fr. Bill (Cantor & Organ)

9:30am Celebrate the Word (Chapel)

9:30 & 11:30am Sunday School (School Classrooms)

9:30am Mass** - Fr. Bill (SJB Adult Choir)

10:45am Mini-Course on the Mass (Youth Room)

11:30am Mass** - Fr. Keating (*Wild Honey & Locusts*)

5:00pm Blessing of the Animals (Plaza & Church)

6:15pm Mass - Fr. Keating (Cantor/Instrumental)

7:00pm Confirmation Program (L106 thru L109)

****Nursery Available**

Before I Forget...

Every Catholic parish must constantly *renew* itself in order not to become stagnant and die. How do we keep St. John's ALIVE? It's rather simple: people must keep gathering to pray, to reflect on their faith, and determine ways to live out their faith in every day life. Jesus promised His disciples the gift of the Holy Spirit after His resurrection. Since that first Pentecost in Jerusalem almost 2,000 years ago, which marks the beginning of the Church, the Holy Spirit is constantly working through ordinary Christians in parishes; people like you and me. The Holy Spirit works in us and through us to keep the mission and message of Jesus ALIVE and vibrant. What happens in parishes throughout the world is of more importance than what happens in Vatican offices or the bishop's office. Each local faith community is extremely important! But, as Roman Catholic Christians, we acknowledge that the Bishop of Rome (a.k.a. the Pope) and the local bishop keep us in communion with other Roman Catholics throughout the world. As we allow the Holy Spirit to be at work in us, we do not do our "own thing," but we remember that the Church is catholic, i.e., universal. But we also remember it is at the parish level that Catholics really experience God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

This past year, the Parish Pastoral Council worked extremely hard to develop a plan for St. John's—a plan that would keep us vibrant and alive and more committed to being disciples of Christ Jesus, to His Gospel, i.e., His way of living, and to living our Catholic faith to the fullest. The document you received in the mail a few months ago, "Building A Stronger Faith Community," is more than words on paper. It is a *challenge* to all of us to recommit ourselves to Jesus Christ in these days, to live His gospel, and to be EXCITED about being His people at St. John's in these northern suburbs. We are Christ's suburban body! We have a *mission* from none other than Jesus Christ!

The five goals: Worship, Education in our faith, Including everyone in the mission of Jesus, Service to our dear neighbor, and living as Stewards of God's creation; plus the addendums, Youth and Evangelization, are the best part of being a Catholic. Our goals, and the addendums, are the heart and soul of every parish. If we remain focused and excited about this plan, the Holy Spirit can take us places that we never dreamt possible. Something very powerful and positive is at work in St. John's parish. Are you open

to the grace of the Spirit right here, right now? Do you want to see St. John's be all that it can be? Do you believe in a new Pentecost, a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit in these 'burbs of ours? Is Jesus calling us to be passionate and compassionate followers, disciples, servant people in our culture?

The October issue of The Forerunner will begin to focus on the parish's goals. If one of the goals really interests you, please contact a member of the staff assigned to the goal as noted below.

As pastor of St. John's, I try my best to serve this large faith community made up of many unique individuals. I want our *liturgy* to be something beautiful and fitting as we worship God together. I hope that our *baptismal commitment* to Christ and the Gospel will lead us to grow in our *understanding* of our faith; to be *good stewards* of God's creation; to be *people of peace and justice*; to *practice hospitality and charity* to all who come to us; to *share* who we are and what we have as a Christian community; to *get involved* in the *ministries* of the parish; to care about *all human life*; and to *live more simple lives* by our *moderation* in all the many areas of our lives.

As we begin a new century as St. John the Baptist Parish, it is a good time to renew ourselves as the Body of Christ, with the help of the Spirit.

God bless us!

Fr. Bill

Goals

Worship
Faith Formation

Inclusion
Service
Stewardship

Staff Contact

Both priests, Jay H., and Cheri S.
Sue Clausen, Sr. Clarinda, and
Brad & Libby DuPont
Pat Keyes and Maurice Prater
Anne Marie Bartlett and deacons
Bob Mike

FYI: There is a new addition in the pastor's life. Since I believe two dogs are better than one, I went to Duluth and brought home another golden retriever. I named him after my two dogs who died, Ollie and Izzy -- OZZIE. He is seven weeks old. My three year old, Teddy, is extremely jealous. And, I'm not getting a full night's sleep. I can now identify more closely with parents of newborns!

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.

"And now with all the choirs of angels, we sing the heavenly song of praise." These words, or similar ones, lead us every week into the great hymn, the "Holy, Holy, Holy" that marks the beginning of the most sacred part of the Mass.

With all the choirs of angels. But now let us ask ourselves. Do we really believe that these beings exist? We should. They do.

Nothing is more clearly attested in the Bible, the revelation of God to us. In the life of Christ alone, there are angels around every corner. It is an angel who announces to Mary her coming child; angels appear to the shepherds and give them news of the birth of Christ; angels comfort Jesus in his temptation; an angel is again with him in his agony in Gethsemane; angels tell the news of the resurrection to the disciples when they come to the empty tomb. Jesus often speaks of them. It is angels, he tells us, who will separate the good from the evil at the end of time. They will accompany him when he comes in glory. They rejoice over even one repentant sinner. And at the moment when Jesus is about to be taken by his enemies, he says to his disciples, "Do you not know that I can call upon my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal ten legions of angels?"

Some poor souls, of course, believe that "what you see is what you get." For them the world is a small and boring place. There is no God, no human soul, only molecules. And of course, they don't think there are angels either. But for those of us who understand that the greatest of all personalities, the One, Holy, Mighty, Eternal, Creating God, is himself invisible to our eyes; for those who know that we

have an unseen soul hidden in our physical bodies, there is nothing to trouble the mind in the idea that there are other beings, closer to God than we are, living in His presence but unseen by us.

It is a healthy exercise of the mind to ponder the existence of angels. We tend to get caught up in what we see, and forget what is far more important, namely, what we can't see. Remembering that there are angels (and demons) around us, that there are eyes that see us even though we don't see them, that the whole material world is upheld by the action of these bright and powerful servants of God, helps us to keep clear about reality. It can save us from the numbing suffocation of the merely seen, and remind us that what we see is only the outward clothing of a vast invisible world, infinitely more beautiful than the one we now inhabit. Our task during the short time we are here is to grow eyes, eyes of faith, that will one day be able to perceive that world in all its glory, and gaze upon the great and almighty God, face to face. The angels will help get us there. St. Michael, and all angels, pray for us!

BIRTHRIGHT OFFICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Compassionate people are needed to volunteer two hours, 1 - 2 times per month, to help others experiencing a crisis pregnancy. Birthright offers free pregnancy testing and supports people in making alternative choices to abortion. Training will be held Saturday, Nov. 22, 8:45 am - 4:00 pm, and Sunday, Nov. 23, 11:45 am - 4:00 pm. Call Judy Quayle, 651-633-0459, for more information (You also have an opportunity to come to our office and observe before training, if you wish.).

Connections: September 28, 2003 26th Sunday of the Year

"Anyone who gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ, will surely not lose his reward..."

"If your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. Better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes be thrown into Gehenna..."

(Mark 9: 38-43, 45, 47-48)

LONESOME DOVE: CROSSING THE LINE

In Larry McMurty's great western, Lonesome Dove, Jake Spoon is a former Texas Ranger who eventually finds himself on the wrong end of the law. While Jake is far from a saint, he's not the worst sinner, either. He just wants to live his life as a gambler without and ties or responsibilities. After a poker game in Fort Worth, Jake agrees to join up with a gang heading up to Nebraska to rob banks. Nobody gets killed robbing banks, Jake reasons. But, as they ride north, Jake discovers that he has hooked up with a band of brutal horse thieves and murderers. It falls to his best friends, all ex-Texas Rangers as well, to hunt the gang down. Cal, Gus, Deets, and Newt follow the carnage and catch up with Jake and the gang. The ex-Rangers pronounce the "judgment of the West" for horse thievery and murder and prepare to carry out the hangings.

Jake begs his friends for mercy. He didn't mean any harm, Jake says, he was just looking for safe company to get across Indian territory. But Gus tells Jake, "Sorry, Jake, you crossed the line."

But Jake pathetically pleads, "But Gus, I didn't see no line."

CONNECTION In his rather harsh words about cutting off and plucking out what causes us to sin, Jesus is pointing to that "line" that poor Jake can't see -- that line between the things of God and the things of earth, the line between authentic love and selfish infatuation, the line between the common good and narrow self-interest, the line between true wealth and fleeting celebrity fame, the line between life and death. To be faithful to the call of discipleship means letting nothing - nothing! - dissuade us or derail us in our search for the things of God; not allowing the pursuit of prestige, wealth, social status, or instant gratification desensitize us to the presence of God in our lives or diminish the love of the God we cherish in family and friends. May we have the courage and freedom to "cut off" and "tear out" whatever removes us from the joy and peace of God!

Stewardship of Treasure

| Actual | Goal | Capital Campaign II |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| September 21, 2003: \$24,729 | \$23,721 | \$8,174 |
| Since July 1, 2003 (YTD): \$311,092 | \$317,768 | \$589,194 |
| Children's (YTD): \$105.00 | | |

God bless you for your generous support!

School News

SCHOOL PICTURE DAY is Thursday, October 2. Pre-school time is 12:30 p.m. for those not attending Little Lights. Children may dress up in their Sunday best!

MARATHON This year's Marathon is Saturday, October 4, at Central Park in Roseville. Participants will walk, run, or bike around Bennett Lake in celebration of our efforts! If you have any questions or would like to make a donation, please contact Sue Clausen, School Principal, or use the envelopes that will be in the pews this weekend and next weekend. The funds will go towards new reading books for grades 3 - 6 and a continuing fund to build a new gym entrance. The students and the staff appreciate your generosity; call 651-633-1522, ext. 1117.

PETER LABUZA SELECTED FOR 2003 JSHS!

Peter S. Labuza, freshman at St. Paul Academy, was selected by the Minnesota Academy of Science as one of only 36 finalists to present an original research paper at the 36th Junior Science and Humanities Symposium (JSHS) Tri-State Competition in October (Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota). Peter will compete and make a scientific presentation based on his eighth grade St. John the Baptist Science Fair Research Project. Congratulations, Peter!

ST. JOHN'S 20 YEAR CLASS REUNION: CLASS OF 1983

St. John the Baptist School's eighth grade class of 1983 will have its 20-year reunion on Saturday, October 11, in St. Joseph's Hall. Dinner to follow the 4:30 p.m. Mass. This invitation is also extended to the parents of the class of 1983. To make your reservation, contact Kelly (Kidd) Wahlquist at 763-553-1614 or Melinda (Juran) Gillis at 651-484-1535.

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!



PRAYER LINE

Call one of these numbers with your prayer requests.

All requests are confidential.

651-633-1618

763-784-5254

651-636-5251

**THANK YOU, EVERYONE, FOR MAKING
ST. JOHN'S FALLFEST WEEKEND
A GREAT SUCCESS!!!**

Pastoral Ministry

Nursing Home Schedule

Week of September 28:

Tuesday, September 30

Word/Comm. 11:45 AM Presbyterian Homes

Thursday, October 2

Word/Comm. 10:15 AM Innsbruck

Word/Comm. 2:00 PM St. Anthony

Mass 2:15 PM Trevilla

RETREAT This Wednesday, October 1, a retreat evening is planned for all pastoral ministers: "The Spiritual Practice of Noticing" with Sr. JoAnne Sehmer; 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. with a light dinner.

GROWING THROUGH LOSS SERIES begins Thursday, October 9, at Abiding Savior Lutheran Church in Moundsview at 6:45 pm. Speaker is Gail Naller with an overview on "Understanding the Grief Process." The Growing Through Loss Program provides an opportunity for individuals to obtain information and support for a variety of loss and grief issues. Each of six weeks features a specific topic and speaker and an opportunity to participate in a small group, if you wish. Come for any or all of the series. For a brochure or for information, call Anne Marie Bartlett or Sue Amos Palmer at the Parish Office, 651-633-8333.

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.

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

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 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

JUNIOR HIGH FAITH FORMATION Seventh and eighth grade Faith Formation classes begin Wednesday, October 1, from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. and 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. in the Youth Room. A calendar for the year will be sent home with the students; parents are welcome to attend the orientation. Contact Brad & Libby DuPont at 651-633-8333, ext. 1218 or johnthebaptistyouth@yahoo.com.

YOUTH MINISTRY PRAYER CHAIN Make a difference in the life of a young person by joining our prayer team! Get involved through Adoration, Rosary, or an e-mail intention list. Contact Dave & Pam Clark, 651-638-9447.

LITTLE ROCK SCRIPTURE STUDY begins Monday, September 29, at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Katherine Drexel Room. You may still register on September 29; the fee is \$20 which includes the study guide & commentary. Come and see how the Gospel of John can change your life!

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 Pub., Grand Rapids, Michigan).

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.

PRAYING BEFORE THE ICON IN THE SANCTUARY
For several months now, St. John's has had the opportunity to appreciate the icon prominent in the sanctuary of the Church. To more deeply understand the treasure of this icon and to use it as a form of prayer, we have scheduled an iconographer to come and speak with us. He is Brother Anthony Sweere of the Franciscan Brothers of Peace. Brother Anthony is Vicar of the Franciscan Brothers of Peace in St. Paul. He is a long-time student of Master Iconographer, Vladislav Andreyev, of St. Petersburg, Russia (now in upstate New York), and of iconology (the theology of the sacred image).

Two of Brother Anthony's most recent icons are those of Sts. Peter and Paul in the Sacred Heart Chapel of the Cathedral of St. Paul. He has also extensively studied Eastern Catholic theology and has a great desire to raise awareness among Roman Catholics about the treasures that the Eastern Church can bring.

Brother Anthony will be presenting four sessions to four different groups in Church. If you cannot attend one that is scheduled for your group, feel free to come to another:

- October 22, 10:00 AM, Seniors
- October 22, 6:00 PM, Religious Education Students
- October 23, 9:45 AM, School Students in Grades 5 to 8
- October 23, 7:00 PM, All interested people

It is exciting to have Brother Anthony with us for each of these sessions. There is such a rich history of icons, and it may lead us to open our hearts to a different form of prayer. Mark your calendars for this special occasion!

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:

October 7 - Monthly Meeting and Guest Speaker (*Note: Change in monthly meeting date.*) Come for planning and socializing at 7:30 PM in the St. Vincent DePaul Room. Father Bill will be our guest speaker!

October 10 - Tour of "Northeast" Establishments We'll start out at 7:00 PM with a bite to eat at Champps in New Brighton. From there we'll travel by mini-bus (if enough interest shown in sharing the cost) or by car to the nostalgic "Northeast" area. RSVP to Jan at 651-780-2142 by Oct. 1.

Oct. 11 - Haunted Hayride & Bonfire Cost is \$13, includes hayride, haunted house, and bonfire. Food, etc. is extra. Carpool from St. John's parking lot at 5:30 PM to Pinehaven Farm in Wyoming. RSVP to Sharon at 651-633-2083 by Oct. 9.

October 23 - Restaurant of the Month Watch for details!

October 31 - Halloween Party from 7:00 - 11:00 PM in St. Joseph's Hall at St. John's. Get your costumes ready and come on out for a fun-filled night! Games, prizes, food, and beverages will be provided. RSVP to Sharon at 651-633-2083 by Oct. 27. (Costumes optional, but encouraged!)

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 Oct. 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.