

Church of SAINT JOSEPH

12 WEST MINNESOTA STREET • ST. JOSEPH, MN 56374

Mission Statement

We, the Church of Saint Joseph, are a Catholic, Benedictine faith community. Our liturgy invites and inspires active participation and faith-filled living. Through our ministry of formation in Christ, we continue to build a solid foundation as witnesses who eagerly respond to the needs of the parish and wider community.



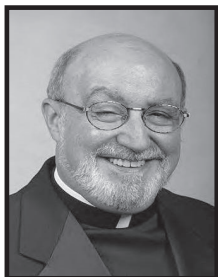
Phone: 320-363-7505
Parish Fax: 320-363-0710
School Fax: 320-363-7760

Parish Website: www.churchstjoseph.org
Diocesan Website: www.stclouddiocese.org
Email Address: parish@churchstjoseph.org

Parish Mission

Sunday, December 4 through Thursday, December 8

A mission is a grace-filled occasion to focus on our spiritual life and recommit our lives to Jesus Christ and the life of his Church. It can be a time of great renewal and insight into God's abiding love and desire for our authentic happiness within our parish community. A mission calls ALL members of the parish to come together and realize more completely Jesus' command to "love one another as I have loved you."



Each evening of the Mission our presenter, Father Morin, OMI will speak to a different aspect of our Advent journey:

SUNDAY	<i>Waiting in History: The 3 Advents</i>
MONDAY	<i>Waiting in Hope: Isaiah</i>
TUESDAY	<i>Waiting in Conversion: John the Baptist</i>
WEDNESDAY	<i>Waiting in Trust: Joseph</i>
THURSDAY	<i>Waiting with the Word: Mary</i>

*Give yourself a spiritual gift this Advent...
come to the Parish Mission ...*

New Parishioners Please stop by the parish office to register or mail your completed registration form found on the New Parishioners page of the parish website.

Prayer Corner If you know someone in need of prayers, please call the parish office. You may also call one of the chairpersons of the Prayer Network: Mary at 363-4244 or Joan at 363-4358.

Infant Baptism Attendance at a baptism class is required for all baptisms, even for parents who have had other children baptized. Please call the parish office at 363-7505, ext. 100, to register for the baptism class (held the first Monday of each month at 7:00 pm). The date of baptism will be scheduled upon completion of the class.

Marriage Call Fr. Joseph, ext. 122, to set a wedding date and to register for a parish preliminary marriage session. A minimum of six months is needed for preparation.

Pastoral Care If any parishioner or family member is in need of a pastoral care visit, please call Fr. Joseph at ext. 122. Today's privacy laws do not permit hospitals to contact churches when a patient is in need of a pastoral visit. We are made aware of it only when the individual or their friends and family contact us.

Sacrament Of Anointing
Please call Fr. Joseph at ext. 122.

DECEMBER 4, 2011 • SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

COMMISSION OF PASTORAL MINISTRIES

Saint Joseph Parishioners will know, understand and practice the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy within our parish and in the wider community.

This week, on December 8, we celebrate one of Mary's special feasts. When I think of Mary during Advent, I am reminded of a practice we observed in Advent during my teaching days called "Giving Shelter to Mary and Joseph." Each school day during Advent, we would draw a child's name from a basket and that child would take home a framed picture of Joseph and Mary on their way to Bethlehem, looking for shelter. The child would set the picture in a prominent place at home over night and then have it displayed in school the next day, so we could all be aware of how important it is to help provide shelter for those who need a place to stay. I do not know if this custom is still being observed in schools or in homes, but it does seem that as a parish community we are about the ministry of trying to provide shelter as best we can. During this Advent season, it might be a good idea to find ways to shelter the homeless, whether it is through a donation to Habitat for Humanity, or to take in a homeless family member or neighbor, or helping someone keep up their home and yard. If we have the desire, God will inspire.

Joyce Iten, O. S. B., Pastoral Minister

A great big **"THANK YOU"** goes out to all of you for your turkey cards and receipts which you have donated. To date, the food shelf has received 57 turkeys and Place of Hope received 28 turkeys to be used when our parish provides the meal. We did it again! Thanks.

Prayer Corner

Please pray for... Marian Brisk, Judy Bruemmer, Laken Court, Richard Dalen, Steve Dusbabek, Nancy Evans, Annie Funk, Justin Funk, Doris Goebel, William Hall, Cliff Hilsgen, Blake Hogenson, Glenn Hommerding, Kathleen Johnson, Bob Kempen, Martha Kierzek, Amy Klaphake, Rebecca Klaphake, Cassie Klein, Darlene Kroll, Larry & Linda Leither, Renee Lepinski, Alice Lenhardt, military men and women and their families, Alan Monsebroten, Tom Nahan, Delores Newcomb, Mike Nierengarten, people of the Diocese of Vijayapuram, India, Sam Rueckert, Cindy Schmitz, Ed Seifert, Lori Sprenger, Jeanette Steichen, Dennis Stueve, Eileen Whitley, Joan Wiener, workers & volunteers in foreign lands. *(These people will be specially remembered at Mass on the first Sunday of each month. If you would like a name added to, or removed from, the Prayer Corner, simply call the parish office, ext. 100. Names remain on the Prayer Corner for about two months.)*

Christmas Giving Tree

The "Giving Tree" for our annual Christmas Giving Tree and Basket Program will be displayed in church this weekend. Parishioners are invited to take a gift tag from the tree and buy a gift for someone in need this Christmas. Tags indicate gender, age, sizes, and any special needs. Please return the wrapped gift **—ATTACHING THE ORIGINAL TAG TO THE GIFT—** before Wednesday, December 7. You may place them under the tree when coming to Mass or at any other time. There will be a basket available to collect new mittens that will be donated to Catholic Charities for their holiday programs. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Alayna Christensen at 363-7505, ext. 121. Thanks you for generously sharing with those in need this Christmas Season.

COMMISSION OF SOCIAL MINISTRIES

Saint Joseph Parishioners will know, understand and work to realize the Gospel vision of justice and Catholic Social Teaching.

Thanks to the Social Concerns Committee

—especially Erinn Hawkins, for putting together our Fair Trade sale. And thanks to all of you who support this important way to shop. Through Fair Trade, people are given a living wage and able to get back on their feet again. Sometimes that mean we pay more for an item, but if it supports someone's livelihood and their family, what a great gift! And what a great way to honor the People of God. It's amazing how our decisions in what we buy have an effect on people's lives. This Christmas we invite you to think about buying gifts with purpose by influencing the lives of others in a positive way. **We will hold the sale during the KC breakfast this Sunday, December 4 and after the Mission on Monday evening, December 5.**

Partnership with the Diocese of Vijayapuram, India

Please keep Bishop Sebastian Thekkethecheril and the people of the Diocese of Vijayapuram in your daily prayers.

Interested in Social Concerns?

Our next meeting is on Saturday, December 10 at 9:00 am in the Youth Ministry Room of the school. Please consider joining us. All are welcome. We meet once a month and work to reflect, study, pray and act on the social mission of the work that includes the Corporal Works of Mercy and ways we can work to change unjust systems that keep people from reaching their full potential.

Affordable housing is available through Habitat

Rocori Habitat for Humanity is looking for a family who needs an affordable home and qualifies for a house that will be built in Cold Spring. To apply you must attend one of the meetings on Thursday, December 8 at 5:30 pm at the Cold Spring Elementary School or Thursday, December 15 at 12:00 noon or 5:30 pm in the St. Cloud Library.

COMMISSION OF WORD

Saint Joseph Parishioners will know, understand and daily witness to Christ-centered living inspired by God's Word and Catholic Tradition.

Youth Ministry

Happy Advent to all! I know it's tough to think about Advent in the midst of Christmas carols and Santa Claus in the mall, but hopefully you can all take a moment here or there to simply just sit. I keep thinking of how dizzy God must get just looking down at us running from here to there. I know there's been a little voice inside me lately saying, "Just spend some time with me." When I do, it makes a huge difference. I challenge you to 'spend some time' with Jesus in the midst of your day and honor this great season of Advent.

Thanks to all the 6th graders who braved the snow to come out for our Bowling and Pizza Spectacular on November 19! We had a great time and look forward to having another event to connect with the 6th graders. If you are interested in helping plan or have an idea, please contact Kay Kellner, Ana Krekelberg, Jeryn SiaSu or Nikki Wensmann.

Thanks also to our Junior High Leadership team of students from CSB/SJU, Shelly Flynn and Julie Notsch for helping with our first "Wednesday 4." If you are interested in helping with this monthly activity, please contact Molly. All 6-8th graders are invited to participate.

Place of Hope Meal

We are in need of youth in grades 7-12 to serve on Sunday, December 11 from 3:30-6:30 pm. Please call Molly as soon as possible to register for this rich experience. Parents, please encourage your son/daughter to try this out.

Service Opportunities Confirmation students, take a look!

Kids Hope Shop at Place of Hope on Thursday, December 15, 3:30-7:30 pm. (If people can't go the entire time, that would be ok. However, a minimum of 2 hours is needed.) Assist youth in picking out presents for their family members from a collection of donated items. This is a great experience! Lots of fun energy and a nice way to connect with a population we might not come into contact with in our day-to-day lives. Adults are needed to accompany our group to Place of Hope. Please call Molly if you are interested.

Molly Weyrens, Coordinator of Youth Ministry
363-7505, ext. 129
youthministry@churchstjoseph.org

Family Table Talk... Questions for your family discussion this week (Gospel: Mark 1.1-8): *How can you tell people are getting ready for Christmas? What stories do you know about Jesus? How can I grow as a follower of Jesus? How is straightening up a friendship like making a straight road for God? What roads run through your life?*

Faith Formation Update

Sunday School classes WILL meet next Sunday, December 11. Please call or email the Faith Formation Office if you have any questions or concerns. See you there!

Classes this week for grades 1-8 All classes, grades 1-8 WILL have class during the Parish Mission on Wednesday, December 7 from **7:00-8:15 pm (note time change)** beginning with prayer in the church. There will be a social in the lab school dining room following classes. Please call or email the Faith Formation Office with any questions or if your child will be absent. Thanks for your help.

Faith Formation Office
363-7505, ext. 152
faithformation@churchstjoseph.org

Saint Joseph Lab School

Saint Joseph Lab School students are readying their hearts for Christ's birth. During daily prayer time, classrooms are darkened with just the Advent wreath lit while the children spend time in prayer preparing for the coming of our Savior. The whole school also gathers on Tuesdays at 1:30 pm for Advent prayer in the basement. It is darkened which reminds us that our days get darker in winter, but the light of the Advent wreaths are a reminder that Christ brightens the darkness. All are invited to this Tuesday prayer service.

The children also have been preparing for our December 20 Christmas program. Their voices can be heard throughout the building as they rehearse the songs. I can tell it will be a wonderful concert. You are invited to this concert. It will definitely get you in the Christmas spirit and there is plenty of seating at Escher Auditorium. We are also collecting donations for the food shelf. *Prelude starts at 5:45 pm. Preschool sings at 6:15 pm. The school band performs at 6:30 pm, and the program begins at 7:00 pm.*

Blessings,
Karl Terhaar, principal

Baptism: Into the Life of God

Theology Day at Saint John's School of Theology Seminary, Friday, December 9, 8:30 am-1:00 pm, Emmaus Hall, SJU. Join scholar Kimberly Hope Belcher to think about how our daily experiences of joy and tragedy call us back to the waters of our baptism. If you wish, you may bring a baptismal photo or memento (yours or someone else's) to assist our reflection. Belcher, an assistant professor at Saint John's School of Theology Seminary and the Department of Theology at the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University, studies sacramental theology, ritual studies, and Trinitarian theology. Free event. Lunch provided. Registration is required: www.csbsju.edu/sot, 363-3570 or sot-sem@csbsju.edu.

COMMISSION OF WORSHIP

Saint Joseph Parishioners will know, understand and honor Benedictine values and the dignity of their role as members of the worshipping assembly.

Where Can I Find the New Responses at Mass?

We began using the new Mass texts the weekend of November 26/27, the First Sunday of Advent. For your convenience, the new responses will be available in four different places:

- The front of the new Sacred Song books will have the complete “Order of Mass” – a new feature in that publication.
- The missalettes found at the entrances will continue to provide the complete “Order of Mass,” as they always have.
- A card with the new responses can be found in the front of the Black Binder.
- Large-print cards with the new responses will be available on the bulletin tables at the entrances. (You can help us keep things tidy by returning them to the same bulletin tables after Mass—not the basket with the worship aids.)

“The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.”

Liturgical ministers are needed for the Thursday, December 8, 7:00 pm Holy Day Mass, the feast of the Immaculate Conception.

A sign-up sheet is on the counter in the East Entrance. This liturgy coincides with the final night of our Parish Mission. (There will also be an 8:00 am Mass on that day, the ministers for which will be supplied by the school community.)

Readings for the Week of December 4

Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert:

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.”

—Mk 1:2b-3

- Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/
2 Pt 3:8-14/
Mk 1:1-8
- Monday: Is 35:1-10/
Lk 5:17-26
- Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/
Mt 18:12-14
- Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/
Mt 11:28-30
- Thursday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/
Lk 1:26-38
- Friday: Is 48:17-19/
Mt 11:16-19
- Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/
Mt 17:9a, 10-13
- Next Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/
1 Thes 5:16-24/
Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

LITURGICAL MINISTERS	Saturday, December 10 5:00 pm	Sunday, December 11 8:00 am	Sunday, December 11 10:00 am
Sacristans	Lori Pfannenstein	Bill Elfering	Judy Meemken
Greeters	Jeff & Mary Botz, Mary Ann Fitzgerald	Ray & Patty Loehlein, Sue Meers	Claire & Merlin Bauer, Dianne Gideon
Gift Bearers	Carol & Mel Butkowski	Othmar & Marilyn Schmitz	Peter & Kristi Spaniol
Eucharistic Ministers	Lori Pfannenstein, Meg Klecker, Dianne Bechtold, Janelle Harren, Charles Kern, Mary Kay Kern, Laura Kutzera	Bill Elfering, Nancy Walz, Delores Giroux, Leo Glatzel, Barb Heltemes, Peggy Jansky, Peter Jansky	Linda Heinen, Alex Schleper, Karen Backes, Bruce Bechtold, Dee Dee Blattner, John Blattner, Becky Cameron
Ushers	Bob & Bernadette Ethen, Mark & Beth Leither	Alan Glatzel, Mark Gohmann, John Heinen, Gary Kuefler	Matthew Schreifels, Mike Thell, David Thomas, Sean Thomas
Servers (*New Server)	Taylor Notsch & Sam Clausen	Amelia Walz & Daniel Walz, Amanda Walz (Baptism)	Rhayne Krekelberg* & Blaise Ebel, Miranda Bayerl (Baptism)
Lectors	Julie Notsch	Tammy Johnson	Nancy Drontle
Music Ministry	Cantors	Cantors	Children’s Choir

The Week Ahead

Sunday, December 4

Second Sunday of Advent

Knights of Columbus Breakfast

8:00 am Mass for our Parish

10:00 am Mass†Stanley Kron

7:00 pm Parish Mission—

Waiting in History: The 3 Advents

Monday, December 5

8:00 am Mass†Joan Hanson

7:00 pm Parish Mission—

Waiting in Hope: Isaiah

Tuesday, December 6

8:00 am Mass†Arthur Reber

7:00 pm Parish Mission—

Waiting in Conversion: John the Baptist

Wednesday, December 7

8:00 am Mass†Alyce Sprenger

9:00 am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7:00 pm Parish Mission—

Waiting in Trust: Joseph

7:00 pm Faith Formations: Gr. 1-8.

Thursday, December 8

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 am Mass for our Parish

12:00 noon Sr. Citizens Christmas Party

7:00 pm Mass†Gene Pfannenstien & Parish Mission—

Waiting with the Word: Mary

Friday, December 9

8:00 am Mass†Theresa Ehlert

Saturday, December 10

8:00 am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

4:00 pm Confession

5:00 pm Mass†deceased members of the Butkowski family

—*Retirement Fund for Religious Collection*

Sunday, December 11

Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 am Mass†Doris Ethen

10:00 am Mass for our Parish

—*Retirement Fund for Religious Collection*

1:30 pm Grief Support Group

3:30 pm Place of Hope Meal—Youth

Masses

Monday - Friday 8:00 am

Thursday 7:00 pm

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 8:00 & 10:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Thursdays 7:45 am

Saturdays 4:00-4:40 pm

And by appointment - Please call Fr. Joseph at ext. 122.

Parish/School

363-7505

PASTOR Fr. Joseph Feders, OSB Office ext. 122
Residence ext. 126
Email: pastor@churchstjoseph.org

DEACON Tom Murray ext. 351
Email: tandnmurray@gmail.com

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Alayna Christensen ext. 121
Email: admnasst@churchstjoseph.org

BUSINESS MANAGER Sandra Scholz ext. 120
Email: sscholz@churchstjoseph.org

YOUTH & ADULT FAITH FORMATION Laura Morgan ext. 152
Email: ffyouthadult@churchstjoseph.org

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION Kathy Janku ext. 204
Email: ffsacprep@churchstjoseph.org

FAITH FORMATION ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Alayna Christensen ext. 204
Email: admnasst@churchstjoseph.org

LITURGY & MUSIC David Orzechowski ext. 123
Email: liturgy@churchstjoseph.org

PARISH CUSTODIAN Andy Loso ext. 306
Email: custodian@churchstjoseph.org

PARISH SECRETARY Joann Rueckert ext. 100
Email: parish@churchstjoseph.org

PASTORAL MINISTRY Sr. Joyce Iten, OSB ext. 130
Email: jiten@churchstjoseph.org

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Linda Heinen ext. 150
Email: schooloffice@churchstjoseph.org

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL Karl Terhaar ext. 151
Email: principal@churchstjoseph.org

YOUTH MINISTRY/SOCIAL MINISTRIES Molly Weyrens ext. 129
Email: youthministry@churchstjoseph.org

MASS TIME SCHEDULE ext. 200

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Andy Brixius 260-6724
Tammy Johnson 363-8609
Tasha Johnson 363-8609
Laura Kutzera 363-8423
Steve Meyer 363-1956
Rich Schwegel, Chair 363-4923
Kathy Wahl 363-7255

TRUSTEES

Kevin Kluesner 363-8363
Gary Renick 363-4422

FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIR

Doug Danielson 363-1026

Stewardship of Treasure

Treasure received week of November 27, 2011

Average weekly budget	\$11,844.00
Adult offering	\$8,897.35
Average weekly automated offering	\$2,971.95
Weekly difference	\$25.30
Youth offering received	\$80.87

Budget through November 27	\$260,568.00
Actual through November 27	\$237,911.13
Difference	\$-22,656.87

Thanksgiving Offering	\$4,202.15
-----------------------	------------

We have gifts that differ according to the favor bestowed on each of us. Romans 12:6-8

COMMISSION OF COMMUNITY

Saint Joseph Parishioners will know, understand and demonstrate what it means to be a Catholic faith community.

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends,

Our Parish Mission begins this Sunday evening at 7:00 pm in the church. This is a wonderful Advent opportunity to prepare for Christmas. There will be sessions at 7:00 pm Sunday through Thursday. Ideally, you will want to be present for them all, but come when you are able.

Fr. Robert Morin, OMI, our mission director, will also be preaching at the morning Masses this coming week, Monday through Thursday at 8:00 am. (Note that we will have Mass on Monday, too.)

The parish is not charged for the mission. However, on Thursday evening, there will be a second offering taken up for the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, Fr. Morin's religious order. About 10% of the offering supports the Oblate preaching ministry and the rest is earmarked for the Oblate foreign missions. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Thursday, December 8 is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and a holy day of obligation. Many people mistakenly believe that the Immaculate Conception refers to the conception of Jesus Christ. Rather, this feast celebrates the teaching of the Church that the Blessed Virgin Mary was free from original sin from the first instant of her existence. Mass on Thursday will be celebrated at 8:00 am and 7:00 pm (as part of our mission) in the parish and at 5:00 pm at Saint Benedict's Monastery.

A special thank you to the folks at SentryBank of St. Joseph and Scherer & Sons Trucking, Inc. for sponsoring our 2012 parish calendars, which are available at the church doors.

Some more thoughts on *Making Room at Our Table...*

If you haven't done so already, please return your pledge cards for the *Making Room at Our Table* Capital Campaign and the 2012 Sunday Offering to the parish office as soon as possible. Continue to pray the *Making Room at Our Table* Campaign Prayer daily!

To learn more about *Making Room at Our Table*, check under the Communications tab at www.churchstjoseph.org.

Blessings on your week!

*In Christ's peace,
Fr. Joseph, O. S. B.*

Catholic Charities Emergency Services,

in cooperation with the U.S. Marine Corps League Valhalla Detachment, sponsors the St. Cloud Area Toys for Tots program for children of families in need. New, unwrapped gifts or cash donations are accepted at drop sites throughout St. Cloud, the full list of drop sites can be found at www.ccstcloud.org/toysfortots.

Marriage Encounter Weekend

Are you looking to enrich your relationship with your spouse? Put life back into your loving relationship by attending a Marriage Encounter weekend at the St. Francis Center in Little Falls. For over 30 years St. Cloud Marriage Encounter has enriched thousands of marriages in Minnesota. The next weekend will be held on February 11/12. To get further information please call 252-3220 or go to <http://stcloudme.org>.

Support Elderly Religious

A donor to the Retirement Fund for Religious writes, "We thank God for every religious sister who taught us in school, not only our ABC's but also to love God." Show your support for the senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who have made a positive difference in so many lives. Please *Share in the Care* and give generously next weekend.

Olivewood Religious Items at Parish Mission

Religious items made in Bethlehem, birthplace of Jesus, will be for sale before and after the Mission on Tuesday, December 6. Items are made from the trimmings of olive trees. Crucifixes, nativity sets, statues too numerous to mention, candlesticks, music boxes, ornaments and more will be on sale. All items have been made by Christians in the Holy Land to maintain their fragile source of livelihood. These make wonderful gifts for Christmas, confirmation, weddings and nice faith expression pieces for your own home. A percentage of all sales will go to the church and there is no sales tax.

Discover Natural Family Planning (NFP)

NFP cooperates with nature and God's plan for married love. It is effective, healthy, and marriage building. The Billings Ovulation Method is a natural, highly effective method for postponing or achieving pregnancy without the use of drugs or devices. A First Instruction in the Billings Ovulation Method will be offered in St. Cloud on Monday, December 19 at 6:30 pm at the Office of Marriage & Family. For more information, or to register, call 320-252-4721. The class is approximately 1½ to 2 hours long. *Note: Most insurance plans cover the cost of NFP Instruction and follow-up!

Church of Saint Joseph Parish Mission:

Need a ride to the Parish Mission? Call the parish office at 363-7505, ext. 100.

WE NEED DRIVERS to transport the elderly and handicapped to our Parish Mission. If you would be so kind as to help with this ministry, please call the parish office.