

The SAINT JOSEPH BUILDER

CHURCH OF SAINT JOSEPH • 12 WEST MINNESOTA STREET • ST. JOSEPH, MN 56374 • 320-363-7505



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.

Stewardship—Pray! Do it every day!

As Christian stewards, we receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them lovingly in justice with others, and return them with increase to the Lord.

—The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops definition of Christian Steward

In the coming months our parish will address three elements of stewardship—prayer in October, offering in November, and ministry in February—to support our development as Catholic stewards.

Prayer, the lifting of the mind and heart to God, is essential to a Catholic steward. God reveals himself to us through prayer. Prayer allows us to bring our thanks, our petitions, and our sorrow for sin before our Lord and God. Our relationship with God grows deeper and stronger through regular prayer.

There are many forms of prayer. We can pray as individuals, with friends and families, in community with our parish and the entire Catholic community, and in global solidarity with all of God's abundant creation. We can pray in thanksgiving and worship, through our work, and through our ministry and service to one another.

How much time do you allot for prayer each day? Can you spend five minutes each morning with the Lord asking, "What do you want me to do to fulfill your will for your Church today... and listen for his answer?"

Can you spend five minutes each night with the Lord reflecting on the many gifts he has given you that day...and thank him?

The desire to pray is within us all, but the practice of beginning and ending each day with prayer often becomes another item on the agenda, an item which becomes easier and easier to postpone. Like all good habits, the practice of prayer requires a commitment. Will you commit to start each day with prayer and end each day with prayer? And do it every day!

Sample morning prayer:

Dear Lord, before I hit the ground running, I pause to be claimed again by you, to be reminded of what matters most, to offer myself for your service in whatever opportunities you give me this day. Thank you for another day and for a safe night passed in your care.

—from Benedict's Way

Sample evening prayer:

Dear God, soon I will sleep. Grateful for this day with all its joys and all its complications, I give myself to your loving care and am happy to rest in your love. Forgive me for my errors, my neglect, my hard-hearted-ness of today. Lord, have mercy. Amen.

—from Benedict's Way

Included on page two of this newsletter is a form to use for your commitment to God to pray every day. You do not need to return your commitment card to the parish but keep it in a handy location as a daily reminder of your commitment to pray.

Church of Saint Joseph Catechetical Plan

Vision Statement for Church of Saint Joseph Catechetical Plan

In response to our baptismal call, we are moved to be co-creators of God's reign on earth by bringing faith to life and life to faith.

In January 2010 five parishioners (Dr. Bernard Evans, Erinn Hawkins, Katie Janssen, Elaine Newton and Natalie Regan) were appointed to a Faith Formation Visioning Team, led by Dawn Carrillo, our Director of Faith Formation. At the request of Bishop John Kinney the team created a four-year total religious education plan for our parish that addresses adult faith formation, youth ministry, evangelization, social justice, and ministry to the non-English speaking people in our community.

The plan which is to be fully implemented by 2014, is visionary, comprehensive and engaging and will help the parish face the unique challenges in the Church and our culture today.

A summary of the catechetical plan elements are to:

- Offer intergenerational, monthly gatherings with age-appropriate catechesis
- Provide Bible Studies, volunteer opportunities, and prayer experiences
- Schedule several yearly retreats
- Implement an in-depth catechist/parish leader formational series

- Expand small faith-sharing groups
- Host two parish-wide social justice events each year
- Follow major Church feasts of Christmas and Holy Week/Easter with formation
- Implement a parish-wide process called *Breaking Open the Word*, where all parish meetings and gatherings begin with a common focus question from the Sunday Gospel
- Implement new Confirmation preparation guidelines
- Assess preparation for Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, RCIA and Marriage
- Develop a protocol for ministry to non-English speaking people
- Create a holistic approach within the life of the parish to Youth Ministry

There are many areas of excellent faith formation already happening in our parish that will continue, with improvements and adjustments as needed. The main change will be a move to intergenerational evenings of catechesis, and the development of an overall, directed plan for the parish.

Please keep this total religious education plan in your prayers as we strive to provide the best possible faith formation for all ages.

Prayer Commitment Form

Lord, I want to meet with you first thing in the morning for at least five minutes. When the alarm clock rings, I have an appointment with you. When my day is complete, I want to spend at least five minutes with you to share my blessings and trials of the day and thank you for your protection. Please help me to make prayer an important part of my life!

I promise to make prayer a serious part of my life. For the year of 2010-11 our family/we/I will:

Commitment: _____

Notes from the Pastor

Dear Friends,

At the end of last school year, Sister Laureen Virnig, OSB, our pastoral minister of eight years and Laura Gorder, our youth minister for nearly four years left the parish for other opportunities. These changes allowed us to review the current needs of our faith community and to hire new staff accordingly.

Our former “pastoral minister” position has evolved into “Coordinator of Pastoral Ministry.” With a focus on *coordinating*, we hope to engage more parishioners in our practice of the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. At the same time, our former youth minister position was split into two positions—Administrative Assistant for Faith Formation and Coordinator of Youth Ministry. The Administrative Assistant position will report to our Director of Faith Formation, Dawn Carrillo, and help bring about our new catechetical plan (see page two).

(continued on page 4...)

Get Your Turkey Card—Stamp Your Turkey Card—Donate Your Turkey Card!

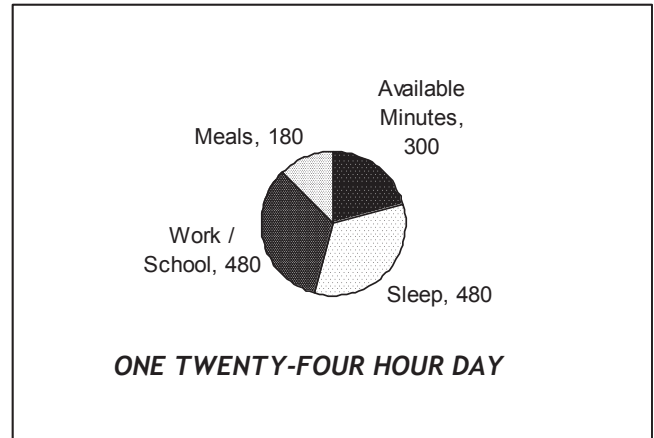
Help fill the local food shelf freezers. How? Please collect and save your soon to be stamped turkey cards from Coborn’s Grocery Store over the next weeks. About a week or two before Thanksgiving and after Thanksgiving, unless you are using your turkey card for your own family, please bring any stamped turkey cards to church with you and put them into the offering basket or drop them off at the parish office, or mail them to the parish office. The number of stamps per card doesn’t matter. We will combine the donated cards and the Commission of Pastoral Ministries will have them redeemed at Coborn’s before and after Thanksgiving Day so we can donate a good number of frozen turkeys and chickens to our local food shelf, to Catholic Charities, and Salvation Army. Spread the word to your friends as well who may be using the turkey cards which Coborn’s offers. This is a great way to help feed the hungry through our local food shelves. Thanks to Coborn’s for their generous turkey and chicken donations, and thanks to all of you who are so willing to help support our local food shelf, and thanks to the turkeys and chickens who have donated themselves to be food for the hungry. For them it is total commitment. For us it is commitment to collecting stamped turkey cards!

Let’s get out there and do it! Blessings and God’s peace be with each of you reading this.

*S. Joyce Iten
Pastoral Ministry*

Pray! Do It Every Day!

How many minutes of your day do you spend with God?



If you use

- Eight hours (480 minutes) for sleep,
- Eight hours (480 minutes) for work,
- Three hours (180 minutes) for meals,
- You have five hours (300 minutes) available.

Will you commit to five minutes each morning and five minutes each evening to spend with God?

Making Room at Our Table

The Planning and Design Committee has continued to meet and as most of you are aware, Hagemeister Mack Architects will be working with our parish on developing schematics for a possible building project to address the facility needs of our parish. We are excited to welcome Mr. Murray Mack into this process. Mr. Mack and his team bring a wealth of experience and a philosophy of collaboration.

As part of this initial process, Mr. Mack would like our parish to form five focus groups to assist in developing a plan that best reflects the needs of our parishioners and community. Participants will be able to share ideas about what should be considered in a design for our parish. The meeting dates and times are listed below:

- Monday, October 18— 6:00 – 8:00 pm
- Tuesday, October 19—6:00 – 8:00 pm
- Tuesday, October 26—6:00 – 8:00 pm
- Thursday, November 4—6:00 – 8:00 pm
- Tuesday, November 9—6:00 – 8:00 pm

Parish involvement is essential to develop a design that is going to best serve our community for years to come. If you would like to attend one of these meetings, please call the parish office at 363-7505, ext. 100.

Notes from the Pastor

(...continued from page 3)

Similar to the Coordinator of Pastoral Ministry, the focus of the new Coordinator of Youth Ministry is to *coordinate* and engage the whole parish in the formation of our youth.

As you can see from the introductions below, we have added three wonderful new staff members, and we did so within our budget parameters. That is, our total parish staff salary and benefit expenses have not gone up. As always, we are trying to be the best stewards of our resources.

With so much going on in the parish, I am reminded of the words of wisdom of someone who once said, “I have so much to do today. Instead of praying for one hour, I will pray for two.” Without God’s guidance and wisdom, we can do nothing.

So, start each day with prayer. End each day with prayer. Do it every day!

In Christ’s peace,

Fr. Joseph, OSB



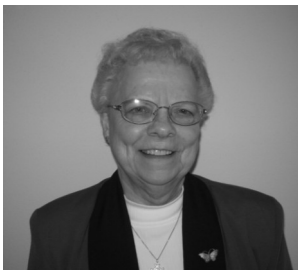
Stephanie Hart **Administrative** **Assistant for** **Faith Formation**

I earned a degree in theology from the College of St. Benedict and have over a dozen years’

experience as an administrative assistant. I grew up in Montana and love to seek out wide open spaces while riding my bicycle. I also enjoy practicing massage therapy. Now that the Faith Formation year is under way, I look forward to getting to know the families involved in the program.

320-363-7505, ext. 204

ffasst@churchstjoseph.org



S. Joyce Iten, OSB **Coordinator of** **Pastoral Ministry**

I grew up on a farm near Luxemburg, MN, along with three brothers and three sisters. After attending Saint Benedict’s High

School and College, I enjoyed an elementary school teaching career, which later turned into faith formation ministry for several years, then pastoral ministry in several parishes, then hospital chaplaincy, and now back to pastoral ministry. I look forward to a fruitful time in pastoral ministry at the Church of Saint Joseph, located in my own backyard. I am grateful for being able to return to Saint Benedict’s Monastery and can be involved in parish ministry and in my monastic community—a double blessing, whichever way I look at my life at this time.

320-363-7505, ext 130

jiten@csbsju.edu



Molly Weyrens **Coordinator of** **Youth Ministry**

I feel like I have come “full circle ‘round” as I begin my time here at the Church of Saint Joseph! I grew up in St. Cloud and attended St. Augustine’s

parish which is also Benedictine and with the monastery in our backyard I feel very much at home. My days previous to Saint Joseph’s have been at Rochester Lourdes High School as a religion teacher, the College of Saint Scholastica as a Campus Minister and most recently at the College of Saint Benedict working with a spirituality/ vocation program called “Companions on a Journey.” Along with being Coordinator of Youth Ministry here I am also currently coaching the girls cross-country running team at Cathedral High School. I enjoy canoeing, reading, sipping coffee while having good conversation, running and x-c skiing. I am grateful for the chance to be here among you and look forward to what we can create by way of listening to what the Holy Spirit is doing in our lives and serving each other and the wider community as we live out the call of the Gospel. There is a good spirit present here! As the late New Ulm bishop Raymond Lucker said often, “God is here.” Simple but true! May we recognize our God and honor God’s presence with our acts of love over and over again. Please contact me with any ideas, concerns or challenges you might face as we build up our youth and help to form them in the faith. Blessings!

320-363-7505, ext. 129

youthministry@churchstjoseph.org