

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.



PRAYER • OFFERING • MINISTRY

*Give, and it will be given to you.
A good measure, pressed down,
shaken together, running over,
will be put into your lap;
for the measure you give
will be the measure you get back.*

—Luke 6:38

**Thank you for praying...thank you for
participating...thank you for your financial support!**



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

New Parishioners Welcome! Please stop by the parish office to register or call 363-7505, ext. 121.

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 Congratulations! 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 Congratulations on your engagement! 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 5, 2010 • SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

COMMISSION OF WORD

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

Catholic School Update

As the planning phase concludes with the acceptance of a final proposal from the Catholic Schools Study Group, we would like to thank the members of the committee who generously gave of their time, talent and energy over the past ten months. They are: Gene Funk and Dave Borgert, Saint Michael; Lynn Kaster and Mark Koch, Saint Paul; Brenda Markman and Harry Marso, Saint Peter; Laverne Feld and Matt Symalla, Saint Joseph in Waite Park; Mark Gohmann and Susan Sink, Saint Joseph in St. Joseph. Their work is greatly appreciated.

Following the distribution of a summary of the CSSG proposal Thanksgiving week, we are ready to move forward with an implementation phase. Before we move on, however, please carefully and prayerfully review the full text. The entire report is available online at: www.churchstjoseph.org. Click on Communications, select Planning, and find the full proposal under the Metro Planning – Schools tab.

Change is difficult. With the consolidation of our schools, we experience the loss of individual school identity and the loss of some valuable staff members. However, hopefully we can look forward to collaborative efforts that will help promote our school so that even more children may experience an excellent Catholic education on one of our campuses. Of the options reviewed, we believe this one will be the least disruptive to our students, parents and staff and offers the most hope for the future.

Within the coming weeks, as pastors of the five parishes of Saints Peter, Paul and Michael in St. Cloud, Saint Joseph in Waite Park, and Saint Joseph in St. Joseph, we will begin working with our school boards, principals and staffs to address a number of critical issues for our consolidated school. Please look for future updates in the parish bulletins and on the parish websites.

Fr. Alan, Fr. Joseph and Fr. Vince

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

Last week, our inquirers took the next step in their journey through the RCIA process in the Rite of Acceptance. They are now moving into the Period of the Catechumenate, where they will spend the next several months gaining deeper knowledge about the Catholic faith. Part of this includes dismissal after the homily at Mass for scripture reflection. Our candidate and catechumens will be called to the altar after the homily and sent forth by the community for further reflection on the Liturgy of the Word at the 10:00 am Mass until they are ready to be received into full communion at the Easter Vigil. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue forth on their journey.

Saint Joseph Lab School

With the commercialization of Christmas, it seems we forget the season of Advent. It is meant to be a time to prepare ourselves for the miraculous event of Christ's birth. Saint Joseph Lab School will be doing many things this Advent season in preparation of the birth of our Savior. We will gather each week as a school for Advent prayer. Each classroom will have an Advent wreath for classroom prayer. Students will also be praying daily for another student as their Advent Angel. There will be a Jesse Tree in the lunchroom where a student will place a symbol of Christ's family tree each day at lunch and students will learn what the symbol represents.

Saint Nicholas will also be making a visit to the school. On the feast of the Immaculate Conception, each grade will be exploring a title given to Mary: Kindergarten - "The Blessed Virgin Mary" 1st - "Our Lady of Lourdes" 2nd - "Our Lady of Fatima" 3rd - "Mary and the Holy Rosary" 4th - "Mary, Queen of Peace" 5th - "Our Lady of Guadalupe" 6th - "The Immaculate Conception". Towards the end of Advent, the students will be assembling and wrapping boxes with the donated Advent Box items. *Place of Hope*, a ministry in St. Cloud serving the homeless in the Tri-County area, will distribute these gifts. Through these activities, students will develop an awareness of the real reason we celebrate the Christmas season.

*Blessings,
Karl Terhaar, Principal*

Youth Ministry

Junior High WINTER SPECTACULAR!

Sunday, January 9—10:00 am-4:00 pm at

Saint John's Prep School

- Enjoy a day full of activities, Mass, music and FUN
- Registration is due Thursday, December 23. Cost: \$16.00
- Experience a great day with other youth from our diocese
- This is open to all 6th-7th- and 8th graders
- Contact Molly for more information: 363-7505, x 129

** Scholarships are available

The Warmth of Advent: Prayer and Cocoa!

Sunday, December 12—5:15 pm

Imagine darkness, candles, music to sing, music to listen to, scripture readings, calmness and shared prayer for ourselves and the needs of the world. Reclaim and celebrate the season of Advent that invites us to wait, listen and hope. All are welcome! This event is brought to you by a group of youth in the parish. Cocoa to follow!

Molly's Prayer Pick of the week

www.youtube.com - Search for: Advent Conspiracy: This Christmas

*Keep the faith!
Molly Weyrens*

COMMISSION OF WORD

Faith Formation

Faith Formation Families December 8, a Wednesday Faith Formation night, is also the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, which is a holy day in the Church. **All Faith Formation classes, grades 1- 8, will be joining the parish at Mass in the church that evening.** Classes begin at 6:00 pm in their regular classrooms where attendance will be taken and teachers will orient the students to the Mass. (7th graders will meet in the Lab School Dining Room and 8th graders will meet in the Upper Gym for this part.) Mass begins at 6:30 pm, and students may sit with their parents at the church. (Parents, please make sure the teacher knows that you are there.) **IF YOU WILL NOT BE ATTENDING THE MASS, you will need to come in to the Lab School to pick up your child at the conclusion of the Mass.** The teachers will be with these students in their regular Faith Formation classrooms. Please contact Dawn Carrillo in the Faith Formation Office (363-7505, x152) if you have any questions or concerns.

Sunday School class for pre-schoolers and kindergartners will meet Sunday, December 12 during the 10:00 am Mass.

*Dawn Carrillo
Director of Faith Formation*

Confirmation Large Group Session Sunday, December 12!

This session is for all 9th and 10th graders and their catechists, beginning at 3:30 pm and concluding at 5:00 pm. (Catechists are reminded to arrive no later than 3:00 pm.) Our topic for the session is *Saints and Heroes* with Sister Ange Mayers, OSF as presenter. Parents and sponsors are always welcome!

Our **Why Catholic?** program has concluded after four years of involvement. We wish to thank all who have participated in this rich experience, and we especially express our deep gratitude to all of the facilitators for their work and dedication. You are a blessing to this parish and to the Church, and we are thankful for each and every one of you! (*Watch the bulletin for exciting news regarding small group discussion opportunities coming in Lent!*)

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.

To admonish the sinner

“Repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand!” These were some of the words the people heard from John the Baptist when they came to the Jordan River as John preached. Repentance can be a difficult word to hear and an even more difficult word to put into action because serious repentance calls for change, for conversion, for turning and going in a new direction, giving up what is out of harmony with God’s teachings and God’s laws. Jesus also spoke of repentance when he said: “I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.” *Luke 5:32*

Repentance is a life-long pursuit with a great deal of help from God rather than a one-time decision to follow Jesus with no further need for repentance. It would be foolhardy on our part to go through life hoping that a one-time repentance experience ought to do it for us. Repentance is one way for us to acknowledge our need for God’s forgiveness and mercy over and over. God most likely is not greatly surprised when we fail in our behaviors and choices at times or God wouldn’t have sent Jesus to give us the necessary help we need to bring us to repentance and change. Repentance is a divine invitation for us to clean up our act with the help of our constant companion, Jesus, who knows how to forgive 70 times 7 and has invited us to do the same. Repentance helps us be part of the Kingdom of God for keeps if that is what we really desire. God invites us to “go for it.”

S. Joyce Iten, Pastoral Minister

Prayer Corner

Please pray for... Jack Blommer, Marian Brisk, Judy Bruemmer, Laken Court, Margaret Danzl, Leona Davis, Dan Eich, Doris Ethen, Delvin Gillitzer, Cliff Hilsgen, Blake Hoganson, Glen Hommerding, Ben Kasella, Bob Kempen, Rebecca Klaphake, Stanley Kron, Arnie Lauer, Alice Lenhardt, Florence Loso, military men and women and their families, Tina Nelson, Delores Newcomb, Dr. Tom Newton, Yvonne Notsch, Larry & Jan Ostendorf, people of the Diocese of Vijayapuram, India, Joe Petrich, Sam Rueckert, Bernie Schloemer, Cindy Schmitz, Ed Schneider, Al & Kathy Seifert, Marilyn Simon, Ann Pfannenstein Stuckart, Zak Whitman, Donald Wieber, Yvonne Wieber, 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.*)

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.

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Friends,

John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"

These words from today's gospel remind us that repentance is a major theme of the Advent season. One of the best ways that we can prepare for Christmas is by seeking out the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This sacrament of healing is available before Mass on Thursdays at 7:45 am and 4:00-4:40 pm on Saturdays. Also, there will be two communal reconciliation services with individual confessions on Wednesday, December 15 at 4:30 and 7:00 pm. If none of these times are convenient, please call me and make an appointment.

Wednesday, 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 Wednesday will be celebrated at 8:00 am and 6:30 pm in the parish and at 5:00 pm at Saint Benedict's Monastery.

Please note that there is no morning Mass in the parish on Tuesday, December 7. Everyone is invited to join the Sisters of Saint Benedict's Monastery for Mass at 5:00 pm that day.

A special thank you to the folks at First State Bank of St. Joseph and Scherer & Sons Trucking, Inc. for sponsoring our 2011 parish calendars, which are available at the church doors.

Blessings on your week!

*In Christ's peace,
Fr. Joseph*

Readings for the Week of December 5

John the Baptist appeared saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said:

*A voice of one crying out in the desert,
Prepare the way of the Lord.*

—Mt 3:1a, 2-3b

Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12
 Monday: Is 35:1-10/Lk 5:17-26
 Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Mt 18:12-14
 Wednesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/
 Lk 1:26-38
 Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Mt 11:11-15
 Friday: Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19
 Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
 Next Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

Liturgical Ministers are needed for the 6:30 pm evening Mass for the Immaculate Conception holy day this coming Wednesday, December 8. A sign-up sheet is on the counter in the East Entrance of the church.

Incense Notice!

We will be using a small amount of incense at the beginning of our weekend liturgies during the season of Advent. Persons with sensitivity to incense may wish to avoid sitting in the front-most pews, especially on the piano side of the church.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS	Saturday, December 11 5 pm	Sunday, December 12 8 am	Sunday, December 12 10 am
Sacristans	Lori Pfannenstein	Judy Meemken	Susan Meyer
Greeters	Delroy & Dianne Bechtold, Mike Nierengarten	Gerry & Jackie Klaphake, Elizabeth Lansing	Kelli & Kristi Spaniol, Ashley Theisen
Gift Bearers	Lori Pfannenstein & Family	James Ano & Family	The Salzer Family
Eucharistic Ministers	Esther Reischl, Joann Rueckert, Sandy Scholz, Lori Stock, Marilyn Court, Peg Walsh, Lori Pfannenstein	Bill Elfering, Connie Loecken, Sue Meers, Virginia Meier, Ellen Murray, Elaine Newton, Jennifer Oswald	Linda Heinen, Joe Heinen, Becky Schreifels, Susan Sink, Karl Terhaar, Jody Terhaar, Ann Thelen
Ushers	Ron & Mary Ritter, Mark & Beth Leither	Maurice Palmersheim, Hank Sunder, Melvin Ruegemer, Jack Blommer	Roger Drontle, Daniel Goebel, Bernie Imholte, Jerry Ethen
Servers	Sam Schneider & Clare McCarty	Amanda Walz & Colleen Dullinger	Nicole Shimak & Lexi Weisser
Lectors	Tom Murray	Tammy Johnson	Pat Kutzera
Music Ministry	Cantors	Cantors	Children's Choir

The Week Ahead

Sunday, December 5

Second Sunday of Advent

Knights of Columbus Breakfast

8:00 am Mass†Delbert Gillitzer
 10:00 am Mass for our Parish
 10:00 am RCIA

Work of Human Hands Sale

Monday, December 6

5:00 pm Mass at St. Benedict's Monastery
 7:00 pm Baptism Prep

Tuesday, December 7

5:00 pm Mass at St. Benedict's Monastery
 7:15 pm Contemporary Choir

Wednesday, December 8

Immaculate Conception of the

Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 am All School Mass†John Meers
 9:00 am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
 9:45 pm Staff Meeting
 4:30 pm Children's Choir
 6:00 pm Faith Formation for ALL Classes
 6:30 pm Mass for our Parish
 6:30 pm RCIA

Thursday, December 9

7:45 am Confession
 8:00 am Mass†Bill Schulte
 10:00 am Autumn Thursday
 12:00 noon Sr. Citizens Dinner at St. Joseph Fire Hall
 6:30 pm Cantor Rehearsal
 7:00 pm Adult Choir
 7:00 pm Finance Council/Pastoral Council Social

Friday, December 10

8:00 am Mass†Art Reber

Cookie Social after Mass

Saturday, December 11

Baptism Weekend

Retirement Fund for Religious

8:00 am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
 4:00 pm Confession
 5:00 pm Mass†Gene Pfannenstein

Sunday, December 12

Third Sunday of Advent

Baptism Sunday

Retirement Fund for Religious

8:00 am Mass for our Parish
 10:00 am Mass††Francis & Lucille Salzer
 10:00 am RCIA
 3:30 pm Confirmation Large Group

Masses

Monday — Tuesday Sacred Heart Chapel 5:00 pm
 Wednesday 8:00 am & 6:30 pm
 Thursday — Friday 8:00 am
 Saturday 5:00 pm
 Sunday 8:00 & 10:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Thursday 7:45 am
 Saturday 4:00 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 Bernadette Ethen ext. 121
 Email: bethen@churchstjoseph.org

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

FAITH FORMATION Dawn Carrillo ext. 152
 Email: faithformation@churchstjoseph.org

FAITH FORMATION ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
 Stephanie Hart ext. 204
 Email: ffast@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@csbsju.edu

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

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

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

MASS TIME SCHEDULE ext. 200

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Joe Berg 271-1303
 Andy Brixius 260-6724
 Tammy Johnson 363-8609
 Tasha Johnson 363-8609
 Brian Klein 363-0032
 Laura Kutzera 363-8423
 Steve Meyer 363-1956
 Rich Schwegel, Chair 363-4923

TRUSTEES

Kevin Kluesner 363-8363
 Gary Renick 363-4422

FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIR

Jill Hoffmann 230-1032

Stewardship of Treasure

Treasure received week of November 28, 2010

Average weekly budget \$11,495.00
 Adult & loose offering \$9,789.04
 Average weekly automated offering \$2,698.62
 Weekly difference \$992.66
 Youth offering received \$106.77

Budget through November 28 \$252,890.00
 Actual through November 28 \$235,981.07
 Difference \$-16,908.93

Charge them to do good, be rich in good works and generous,
 sharing what they have. —1 Timothy 6:17-19

COMMISSION OF SOCIAL MINISTRIES

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

Learning about the Diocese of Vijayapuram

Last week, we shared some sad news from Fr. Thomas Tharayil, the Director of the Vijayapuram Social Service Society, about the loss of life and damages caused by heavy rains and flooding in his area.

On a happy note, Fr. Thomas also sent along some letters from the children of Saint Mary's parish in Kottayam. (Our Lab School children pieced together rosaries that were given to the children of Saint Mary's in January 2010. Since then there has been some correspondence between the children who are separated by thousands of miles.)

The children of Saint Mary's excitedly wrote about Onam, the biggest and the most important festival in the state of Kerala. It is a ten-day harvest festival and is celebrated with joy and enthusiasm by people of all communities. According to a popular legend, the festival welcomes King Mahabali whose spirit is said to visit Kerala at the time of Onam (August-September). During his reign, everybody had been happy and prosperous.

The most impressive part of the Onam celebration is the grand feast called Onasadya. It is a nine course meal consisting of 11 to 13 essential dishes. Onasadya is served on banana leaves and people sit on mats laid out on the floor to have the meal.

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

2010 Retirement Fund for Religious

The Retirement Fund helps senior religious. "As expenses continue to increase and economic difficulties tighten our income, we appreciate more and more the help of the Retirement Fund," notes a woman religious. Your tax-deductible donation to the Retirement Fund for Religious supports the day to day care of thousands of elder sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Please *Share in the Care* and give generously to next week's offering.

Produce Good Fruit... Today's readings remind us to prepare for Jesus' second coming by bearing good fruit. Jesus cautions us. "Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life..." He seems to call us to a different kind of preparation. Fruitful activities that help us prepare the stables of our hearts include:

- Spending extra time in prayer, like Adoration, rosary, family prayers
- Decorating our homes with spiritual décor (mangers, advent candles, etc.)
- Volunteering to help the elderly, infirm, or poor
- Requesting donations to worthy causes in lieu of receiving Christmas gifts
- Purchasing Fair Trade gifts to share with others (Visit <http://www.crsfairtrade.org/crafts/buy-handcrafts/> to purchase fair trade gifts.)
- Practicing "random acts of kindness" to express your repentance

Each member of the family can place a small piece of straw in your manger each time they engage in a spiritually fruitful activity. The Savior will have a cozy manger when He arrives!

—Adapted from **Justice Corner** by Rachel Ramjattan

COMMISSION OF COMMUNITY

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

Stewardship - Offering The Gift of Giving!

When we feel threatened financially, the last thing any of us wants to do is to do something that takes away from our limited resources. But we need to remember that as we give to others, so God gives to us.

"Give and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For the measure you give will be the measure you get back." *Luke 6:38*

So when you feel like hanging on tight to what you have, do the opposite – let go. Open your arms and say, "I believe and I trust." Give something away. Share some of what you have with those in greater need. Of course, you need to be careful with your own resources, but we all have something we can give – our time, our talent, or just a smile and a helping hand. If you have not yet returned your commitment of offering form, please do so. You may drop it into the Parish Communication Center, bring it to the parish office, or bring it to Mass with you next weekend.

Thank you for your financial commitment to your parish.

Christmas Giving Tree

Please return your wrapped gifts—ATTACH THE ORIGINAL TAG TO THE GIFT— by Wednesday, December 8. You may return them under the tree when coming to Mass or at any other time. If the church is locked, please bring the gifts to the parish office. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Bernadette Ethen at 363-7505, ext. 121. Thank you for generously sharing with those in need this Christmas season.